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Always  
room for  
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# Paralympic torch won't see foreign soil

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## Giant doll rolls



By Zheng Lu

An eight-meter-high giant puppet appeared at Yansha Youyi Shopping City as part of the outdoor activities of Yansha Night, Wednesday.

The puppet was designed by 12 Australian artists and owned by Tomboy, a Korean clothing company.

To move Tomboy was a big project. Supported by a fork lift operated by fourteen muscle men, the puppet was the most eye-catching event of the evening.

CFP Photo

## Yao comes back for Olympics

By Huang Daohen

NBA star Yao Ming is back in China to get ready for the Beijing Olympics. Yao arrived at Beijing International Airport on Tuesday, and told reporters he's had a smooth recovery.

"I'm about recovered, but doctors told me not to take part in any resistance matches until mid-July," Yao said.

According to coach Jonas Kazlauskas, the Chinese men's basketball team will soon start training for the Games with Yao on the roster. Since his surgery in the beginning of March, Yao has spent most of his time in recovery training in the US.

Sources say that a group of top medical experts from Beijing will meet and closely follow up on treating Yao's injured ankle.



Yao arrived in Beijing on Tuesday.

Xinhua Photo

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# Paralympic torch relay canceled overseas

By Han Manman

The Beijing Olympic Games organizers (BOCOG) Wednesday dropped the overseas leg of the Paralympic torch relay because of the devastating Sichuan earthquake.

The torch had been scheduled to visit the Olympic host cities of London, Vancouver and Sochi, the hosts of the next three winter and summer games, as well as Hong Kong before the September

6-17 Paralympics.

"The main reason is the devastating earthquake in Sichuan. We want to focus on relief and reconstruction work and preparations for the Paralympics," Zhang Qiuping, director of BOCOG's Paralympics department, said.

Zhang said, overseas torchbearers for the Paralympics are still welcome to participate in the domestic relay.

Four cities - Chengdu,

Chongqing, Urumqi and Tianjin - have also been withdrawn from the original 16-stop schedule for the domestic relay.

The original Paralympic torch relay plan was released last September when its one-year countdown began.

BOCOG's Torch Relay Center will announce the new Paralympic torch relay plan soon.

The cancellation came during a five-day meeting of

Chinese Paralympic officials and delegates from the International Paralympic Committee to plan the September 6-17 Paralympic Games.

BOCOG said the meeting, which began on Monday, discussed topics including the opening and closing ceremonies, transportation, spectator services, risk management, catering, the Paralympic Village and ticketing.

## Inbound tourists to Beijing down this year

By Zhang Dongya

There were 346,000 travelers to Beijing this year as of May, a drop of 14.2 percent compared to last year, according to the data released by Beijing Statistic Bureau and National Bureau of Statistics last week.

There are several reasons for the decline, including snowstorms during Spring Festival and the Sichuan earthquake this May, a spokesman of Beijing Statistic Bureau said. Some references in Beijing canceled before the Games, and abolishing of May holiday also impacted results. Some visitors worried price hikes before the Games and changed their travel plans.

Generally, Beijing is the first stop for the foreigners who travel to China. "Some who prepared to travel to West of China gave up after the snowstorms and earthquake," a spokesman of a Beijing travel agency said.

As for tourists from the US, the devaluation of US dollar is a factor that should be considered. Rising domestic prices have also cut into tourism. "Some tourists told us that their meal expenses jumped considerably since last year," he said.

Also, some foreign visitors thought hotels in Beijing may be jammed and expensive since the Games will come in several weeks. However, according to data from the Beijing Tourism Administration, during the first five months of the year, the occupancy rate of five-star hotels was 77 percent, with 45 percent in four-star hotels.

According to statistic bureau, tourists from all the major countries are decreased this year, including those from the US, Japan and Korea.

## Moms-to-be say badges not obvious enough



Although Beijing's pregnant women welcome the badges, they hope it will be re-designed to be more visible. Photo by James Hao

By Han Manman

Beijing on Tuesday started handing out buttons reading "Mom-to-Be" for pregnant women to help protect them in public places. However, many pregnant women complained that the badges are not clearly visible.

Initiated by the Beijing Municipal Health Bureau, Beijing Women's Federation and China Women's News, the badges were mainly made available for pregnant women who are late in their pregnancy but don't show it.

"I am five months pregnant, but still very thin. When I take the subway, no one recognizes I am pregnant and no one is willing to offer me a seat," Li Xia

said. She said she was too embarrassed to ask for a seat.

A Beijing Women's Federation (BWF) official said the move gives pregnant women the opportunity to identify themselves to other passengers and hopes it will give them the confidence to ask for a seat if they need one.

May pregnant women doubt the small and translucent key-chain-like badge can really work.

As one of the first to receive a badge, Li said the design does little to stand out and only serves to hang on a purse. She suggested using a pregnant women's figure on the badge or designing it to be worn like a brooch.

BWF said it will continue to col-

lect opinions and hopes to deploy a better badge in the future.

This is the first time the capital has distributed such badges. Five maternity clinics in the Haidian, Chaoyang, Huairou, Tongzhou and Daxing districts were in charge of distribution.

Before the initiative, some people in Beijing and Shanghai had made and distributed similar badges on their own.

Such badges can also be seen in other countries. For instance, Tokyo's subway company hands out pink and blue buttons reading "There is a baby in my belly" to pregnant women in hopes they will be given seats on the city's commuter trains.

## Taxi drivers' service to be watched

By Zhang Dongya

Beijing taxi drivers will be under closer scrutiny for their services starting Tuesday, the Beijing Municipal Transportation Law Enforcement General Team said. Traffic authorities in Beijing are strengthening the management and supervision of the city's taxi services and industry.

More than 200 traffic supervisors will monitor drivers via night inspection and random checks. All the substandard taxi drivers who refuse passengers, take an unnecessary detour or keep dirty cabs will face penalties. Dirty taxis will be fined 200 yuan, a traffic supervisor said.

Taxis to or at restaurants related to Olympic Games, such as Beijing Wangfu Restaurant, Tianlun Dynasty Hotel and Tianlun Songhe Hotel, are the major targets of supervision.

"With the arrival of the Olympic Games, restaurants related to the Games will become more popular. We will strengthen the supervision at these important locations," a spokesman for the general team said.

In addition, the Transportation Law Enforcement General Team will enforce the Regulation of Beijing Taxi in the whole town for a month. Some key sites, including Beijing Railway Station, Beijing West Railway Station and Capital Airport, are main supervision points.

According to the regulations, taxis parked illegally, or with broken meters, will be fined 100 to 1,000 yuan. Drivers who reft their meters to cheat will have their licenses suspended.

## Brief news

### Country 'could have 2.3m' drug addicts

There may be as many as 2.3 million drug abusers in the country, Yang Fengrui, director of the anti-drug bureau of the Ministry of Public Security, said Wednesday.

To monitor trafficking, police will tighten checks at borders and other entry and exit points and entertainment venues such as nightclubs, Yang said.

### Free wireless Internet in downtown Beijing

Internet users in Beijing will have faster, easier access to the cyber world when "Wireless Beijing" goes into full swing. The service will be offered free of charge during the Olympics.

CECT-China Comm Communications, the service provider, will implement the plan in three phases. The first phase began trial operations Wednesday covering 100 square kilometers: much of downtown Beijing including the area along the second and third ring roads, CBD, Financial Street, Zhongguancun district and Wangjing.

### Tibet greets first foreign tourists

Tibet greeted its first foreign tourists, a Swedish couple, on Wednesday, marking the full opening of Tibet to overseas and domestic tour groups after a three-month halt after the March 14 Lhasa riots.

A second group of foreign tourists, four Singaporeans, will arrive on Sunday, the Tibet Autonomous Regional Bureau of Tourism said.

(By Han Manman)

## Gov pulls half its cars off the road

By Han Manman

Half the number of government cars will be pulled from city roads starting Monday as part of a trial plan to ease congestion and cut fuel consumption by 20 percent.

"The government wants to take the lead in guaranteeing smooth transport during the Games," Zhou Zhengyu, spokesman for the Beijing transport committee and its deputy director, said Monday.

The Beijing government had said in a public announcement on Saturday that it planned to ban 30 percent of all government cars starting

July 1. The State Council decided to have all central government departments hold back half of their cars starting Monday, to help cut fuel consumption by 20 percent.

"This prompted the municipal government to change its plan to match the central government's energy-saving policy," an official with the municipal Party committee's news office said on Monday.

The exact number of cars that will be affected by the move is not yet known, but the figure and its effect on the capital's air quality and traffic will be made public, Zhou said.

A number of taxi drivers said they had already started benefiting from the ban. Taxi driver Wang Zhifeng said the east Second Ring Road's rush hour eased a little the last two days. "Hopefully, the effect will be more dramatic starting July 20," Wang said.

From July 20, 70 percent of government cars will be banned from Beijing roads until September 20. The ban includes public service units, such as schools, hospitals and State-owned firms, so the total number of cars to be removed may be 210,000, Zhou said.

Beijing also has plans for its 3.3 million private car owners to abide by an even-odd license plate rotation from July 20 to September 20. Only public service vehicles, such as buses and taxis, and diplomatic vehicles are exempt.

The move is expected to reduce traffic in the capital by one-third and add 4 million people to the current 12 million public transport users, officials said. "We will add 2,000 buses, open three new metro lines and extend their operation hours to meet the increased demand," Zhou said.



# Officials fired for aiding Gaokao cheaters

By Huang Daohen

A well-organized ring to cheat the college exam system organized by a Shandong Province government official was broken by police during this year's National Higher Education Entrance Examination (Gaokao).

The officials involved were relieved of their posts, Xinhua reported.

## Organized scam

Huo Jigang, vice director of the Yanggu County Agricultural Bureau in Shandong, allegedly organized the exam scam which later turned out to be an organized crime.

According to Huo's plan, as released by the police, students who paid Huo to cheat were asked to illegally shift their Hukou, permanent residence certificate, from

Shandong Province to Tianshui city in Gansu Province. The latter province has much lower admission scores due to poor education in the area.

Then substitute students were used to impersonate "immigrant" ones in the exam, the report said.

Earlier this year, Huo, 43, asked his wife Zhang Yuru and Wei Chengjia, a chemistry teacher at No 1 High School in Yanggu County to solicit students, all of whom were in their second year at Wei's School.

Huo then contacted Jiang Xin, a teacher at No 6 Middle School in Tianshui in Gansu Province. They obtained ID cards and registered permanent residence certificates in Tianshui with fake documents through illegal channels, Xinhua

reported.

## Scandal revealed

On the morning of June 7, the first day of the three days of exams, test supervisors in Tianshui became suspicious about a boy who did not write his own name correctly.

When asked basic questions like "Who are your teachers?" and "Which school are you from?" the student failed to answer.

The student was handed over to the police and confessed that he and some other students sitting the Tianshui exam were from Yanggu County and had been hired by Huo to take the exam in their place.

Zhang and Wei were arrested in Gansu the following day. Wei was also sacked from his post and expelled from the Communist

Party. Huo remains at large.

## Gaokao reform

Liu Yan, an official with the enrollment office at the University of Science and Technology Beijing, said more effort is needed to reform the current Gaokao system.

"Gaokao is generally seen as an equal opportunity for students. It is, nevertheless, a system without uniform standards," Liu said, "Universities set different success parameters for students from different regions."

Liu said the stakes are too high for students who sit the Gaokao, which will determine whether they can go to a university and go on to land a high paying job.

"We need to reform and give students more options aside from Gaokao," he said.

## Scholars unsatisfied with gov disclosure

By Zhang Dongya

Three Beijing University Law School professors who decided to test the Government Information Disclosure Bill earlier this month have received a reply – one with which they said they are unsatisfied.

The professors filed a request with the Beijing Municipal Transportation and Traffic Committee, Beijing Municipal Commission of Development and Reform and Beijing Capital Highway Development Company (BCHD) last month seeking to learn how the company was using revenue generated by the Airport Expressway.

The two related government departments responded to the initial inquiry within the required 15-day limit, but BCHD failed to reply in any manner. It previously stated it never received such a request from the professors.

Documents delivered Tuesday by the queried government departments revealed the total investment in and how much revenue the expressway has generated in the last four years, but failed to answer how much of the initial loan remains and how BCHD has used toll revenue.

According to the documents, tolls levied on drivers brought in 1.8 billion yuan from 2004 to 2007, and the expressway's investment was 1.1 billion yuan. The departments said the professors should contact BCHD to find out how revenue has been used.

"We are partly satisfied with the government's performance in this issue. The two departments replied with standard forms and called us several times to update us on the progress of our request. However, it is a pity they failed to give a direct answer to the most vital questions," Shen Kui said.

The professors said they will follow up with related departments, and have not ruled out the possibility of filing legal action.

## Beijing-Tianjin now 25 mins



The new train with a top speed of 394 kilometers per hour, takes 25 minutes to go from Beijing to Tianjin. The train will be put into use at the beginning of August while ticket prices will be announced in July.

CFP Photo

## Museum to raise buried pig

By Zheng Lu

The Jianchuan Museum Cluster in Sichuan has adopted a pig which remained trapped 36 days after the earthquake.

Last Tuesday, the pig was found alive under the ruins of a village near Pengzhou, a city near Chengdu. Shielded by a few planks, the pig laid under a half-meter high crack for 864 hours. Its keeper was buried when the surrounding bricks tumbled. The pig survived by eating charcoal and drinking rain water. It lost more than 100 kilograms and now weighs only 50.

The pig was named Strong Pig by the Jianchuan Museum. The museum paid 3,008 yuan

to the owner. He Xinyong, vice curator of the museum, said the museum will raise the pig. "It is a miracle. It is not easy for a pig to survive for so long. We were all moved by Strong Pig," He told *Beijing Today*.

Since news of the pig first broke, public opinion was opposed to the pig going on to its regularly scheduled slaughter.

"A veterinarian injected Strong Pig with antibiotics, and she seems fine aside from a leg that was injured in the earthquake. She is well cared for and just needs some time to recover," He said said.

However, the news also brought trouble for the museum.

"The keeper at our museum told me he was under great pressure. He is terrified that there will be a backlash if anything happens to Strong Pig since she has become so famous," He said.

Jianchuan Museum has held an exhibition on the Wenchuan Quake Called Shock: A Diary from 5.12 to 6.12. The exhibition will continue for three months, after which a special permanent exhibition hall will be constructed. The hall will be free to the public.

Li Xinggang, a Chinese architect who participated in the design of the Bird's Nest, will design the hall. Part of the permanent exhibit will tell the story of Strong Pig.

## Games to see biggest youth camp

By He Jianwei

About 480 campers from around the globe and throughout the Chinese mainland will participate in the Olympic Youth Camp (OYC) at Beijing No 101 Middle School from August 6 to 17, an official said Wednesday afternoon at Beijing Olympic Media Center.

Among the total number of campers, 62 come from the mainland and 410 from another 195 countries. "It is the widest participation in the history of the Olympic Games. For the first time in Olympic history, 10 disabled Chinese people were invited to the Beijing 2008 OYC," Wang Yue, director of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Youth Camp Venue Team, said.

The campers are aged 16 to 18. Each province in the Chinese mainland has two representatives and the foreign participants are recommended by the participants' National Olympic Committee.

According to their schedule, they will attend the opening and closing ceremonies and competitions of the Beijing Olympic Games.

They will also visit the Olympic Village, take part in thematic forums and sightseeing activities, including a trip to the Great Wall.

As part of the program, 20 torch bearers from the OYC will join the torch relay activity in Hebei, Henan, Tianjin and Beijing.

About 383 volunteers will deliver voluntary services to all kinds of activities organized by the OYC, including 100 teachers from Beijing No 101 Middle School in charge of boarding, 80 security volunteers and 70 coordinators in charge of the activities.

The Youth Camp has been a tradition for almost every edition of the Olympic Games in the last century. The 2008 camp program highlights the theme of "Youth Creates Future," with an aim to spread the Olympic spirit through experiencing the Olympics, showcase growth of youth in countries around the world and give campers an opportunity to understand China, as well as promote the concept of peace, cooperation and development.

The OYC began at the Stockholm 1912 Olympic Games, when King Gustav V of Sweden invited boy scouts to pitch their tents near the Olympic Stadium and celebrate the Games. Over a century, almost every Olympic Games has hosted the OYC.





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# What do you do on the Internet, President Hu?

(Reuters) – President Hu Jintao answered just two questions in his online debut on an official Web site on Friday, the first being – what do you usually do on the Internet?

Nearly 200 questions awaited Hu on the Web site of *People's Daily* (people.com.cn), the Communist Party's newspaper, shortly after an unexpected announcement that Hu would chat with his country's 221 mil-

lion Internet users later in the morning.

Hu began the "chat" by saying his work was "usually relatively busy and it is impossible for me to surf the Web every day."

The first question he answered was what did he usually do on the Internet.

"The first thing is read domestic and foreign news. Second, it's what interests people on the Internet and I like

to see their advice and suggestions on the work of our party and country."

The second question he answered was whether he could see the problems and suggestions raised by people on the Internet.

His answer, "We pay a lot of attention to the advice and suggestions raised by surfers ... We need to listen to the people's voices broadly and consolidate wisdom to do things and make

decisions."

"To find out public opinion and collect people's wisdom through the Internet is also an important channel."

His online chat lasted 20 minutes. "Why did it end so quickly? asked a disappointed surfer who wrote under the name of Love Blog.

Hu promised to "seriously read and study" the posts sent to him.

## Gov plans Everest cleanup in 2009

(AP) – Debris from 50 years of mountain climbing – including oxygen canisters, tents, backpacks and even some bodies – has led the world's tallest peak to be called the world's highest garbage dump.

The government is moving to clean up its northern side of the mountain and protect the fragile Himalayan environment.

The trash collection campaign could limit the number of climbers and other visitors in 2009.

Xinhua reported environmentalists estimate that in years since Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay first conquered the mountain, climbers could have left behind as much as 120 tons of garbage.

Nepal has already tightened its laws for climbers and their guides, who are required to carry out gear and trash or forfeit a US \$4,000 deposit.

## 'Quake lake' to be tourist spot

(AP) – Sichuan plans to turn a huge lake formed from the earthquake into a tourist destination, Xinhua reported Tuesday.

Scientists are assessing how to best develop Tangjiashan lake into a scenic spot, Chen Xingchun, secretary-general of the Communist Party Committee of Mianyang city, was quoted as saying by Xinhua News Agency.

The government will also rebuild Beichuan County – just downstream from the newly formed lake – in a new location because the county seat was devastated by the temblor, Chen said. No decision has been made on where to rebuild.

Chen said the development of Tangjiashan lake into a scenic spot would be "an important part of rebuilding Beichuan county."

## Shaolin Temple sets up eBay-style shop

(AFP) – Between perfecting one-finger handstands and single-handedly fending off 1,000 enemies at once, the residents of the Shaolin Temple are hawking T-shirts, candles and chopsticks online.

The temple in central Henan Province, famous as the birthplace of kung fu, has established an eBay-style store to sell Shaolin-branded merchandise on Tao-Bao's auction site.

The site is operated by Shaolin Zhiye, the temple's commercial arm, which is behind an array of ventures exploiting the Shaolin legend, including film productions, touring martial arts shows and even a reality-TV program.

The site does not offer the secrets of immortality, but for 10,000 yuan (US \$1,450), fans can buy a three-volume set of kung-fu and medical secrets.

More modest offerings include a wristband and environmentally-friendly chopsticks.

Despite its name, critics say the temple's current occupants are not genuine Shaolin monks because the spiritual side of their art has been replaced by crass commercialism.

## World runners take stride in Changchun



About 20,000 runners from 15 countries and regions took part in the first Lidigoloppet China, a cross-country race, in Changchun, Jilin Province, this past weekend. As an important part of Changchun

summer relaxation festival, the first Lidigoloppet China consists of a 30-kilometer elite race for athletes and 15, 7.5 and 2.5 kilometer races for the public. The annual Lidigoloppet, which made its

debut in 1965, is one of the biggest cross-country races in the world. The race takes place on Lidingo of Sweden and attracts more than 30,000 participants from all over the world each year.

Photo provided by Nordic Ways

## Poll predicts China will top US in Olympic medals

(AF) – China should win one more medal than the US at the Beijing Olympics – 88 to 87 – and top the overall table for the first time, according to a survey released Monday by accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers.

"As the host nation in Beijing and (with) an economy which has grown very strongly since 2004, the medal 'target' of 88 for China according to our model is much higher than its actual medal totals in Athens (63) or Sydney (59)," John Hawksworth, the report's author, said.

China was third in overall medals at Athens 2004, behind first-place US (102) and Russia (92). China was second in gold medals behind the US in 2004 – 32 to 36.

Hawksworth predicted Russia will drop to third place at Beijing with 79 medals overall, down 13, followed by Germany (43), Australia (41), Japan (34), France (30), Italy (29), Britain (28) and South

Korea (27).

The report lists significant factors behind a country's performance at the Olympics since 1988, including population, average income level and being the host nation.

"The bottom line is that size matters, but it is not everything," Hawksworth said. "David can sometimes slay Goliath in the Olympic arena."

India remains a "significant underperformer" and is predicted to get six medals in Beijing, compared with one silver medal at Athens.

"The most plausible explanation is that, with the exception of (field) hockey, Indian sport tends to be focused on events that are not included in the Olympics, most importantly, cricket," Hawksworth said.

Last year, Italian Olympic official Luciano Barra forecast the US would beat China in both gold medals and overall medals won.

## Official response

By Han Manman

As the host of the Games, China should not focus too much on these estimates, Cui Dalin, deputy director of the State General Administration of Sport, said.

The government never said it expects China to top the gold medal count, but did say it is still not a powerful sports nation, Cui said.

Cui said China's status as a first time host has bolstered expectations that the China team will topple the US in 2008. However, it is unrealistic to expect China to earn more gold medals than the US, which had won far more golds in major international competitions

in the past four years.

The US won 103 medals at the 2004 Athens Games and Russia won 92, well above China's record 63. Cui said the performance in Athens proves how behind the country is.

Cui said the China team's advantages will be in taekwondo, diving, ping pong, shooting, women's taekwondo and weightlifting, in which it has earned a total 18 gold medals in 2004. Chinese athletes have made breakthroughs in some sports, such as boxing, rowing, sailing, fencing, men's wrestling, the pentathlon and trampoline, but the results are less certain.



# Gov raises prices of refined oil

The country raised the price of gasoline, diesel oil, aviation kerosene and electricity, revealing an unprecedented broad plan to raise energy prices, the top economic planner announced last Thursday.

As of last Sunday, the benchmark gasoline and diesel oil retail prices were marked up by 1,000 yuan per ton, with the price of aviation kerosene up by 1,500 yuan per ton.

The prices of natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas, however, would be left unchanged, according to the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).

The benchmark retail prices of gasoline and diesel oil would be lifted to 6,980 yuan and 6,520 yuan per ton, up more than 16 percent and 18 percent respectively.

NDRC experts said that Thursday's move to raise fuel and electricity prices was intended to adjust market supply and demand and better allocate resources with the leverage of prices.

The move was in line with the country's goal to bring the market more into play in forming prices under macro controls, unidentified NDRC experts, said.

(Xinhua)

## Higher gas prices will help Chinese economy

By Huang Daohen

It would be a huge mistake to think the fuel price increase will somehow derail the economy, Tony Sagami, a veteran investment adviser on Asian markets, said.

Fuel prices are not nearly as important to the typical Chinese citizen, who doesn't even own a vehicle, let alone driving a gas-guzzling SUV, said Sagami, also the founder of Harvest Advisors, an investment research and money management company.

Most people walk, ride a bike or scooter, or use public transportation to get around, he said.

Sagami said gas is still cheap in China, compared to prices in the free market. "Even after this increase, a gallon of gas costs about US \$3, which is 25 percent less than what we pay in the US," he said.

Besides, the last price hike did not slow China's economy. There

seems to be no correlation between higher fuel prices and an economic slowdown, Sagami said.

The NDRC raised fuel prices by 10 percent last November when oil was US \$90 a barrel. China's GDP grew by 11.9 percent in 2007.

"All statistics indicate that China is still growing like a weed," Sagami said.

Instead of suffering from the oil price increase, Sagami noted that the Chinese economy would actually improve.

Many parts of China have been suffering from moderate to severe fuel shortages because the country's fuel retailers Sinopec and Petro China simply shut down their stations.

"Prices were being kept too low, and they couldn't make money. It was easier to just not run the pumps," Sagami said.



Experts say the gas price increase will help China's economy in the long term.

CFP Photo

However, it will become easier now for gas retailers to turn a profit again, he said. Stations that have been bone dry will soon have plentiful supplies of fuel. Motorists and truckers that were left stranded

or paying sky-high black market prices can get back on the road. Long waiting lines and fuel shortages will be a thing of the past.

"As a result, the economy will pick up steam," he said.

## UUSee.com to offer streaming Games

By Huang Daohen

UUSee.com, a multimedia Web site, has recently joined forces with CCTV.com to offer the live video broadcast for 2008 Olympic events including the opening and closing ceremonies.

UUSee.com said that it would create Olympic special programs formed by several live broadcast channels to broadcast the events through users' terminals and Web pages.

"UUSee.com has made great efforts to develop the video technology and tries to bring the consumers a totally new experience through new media," Li Zhu, the company's founder and CEO, said.

CCTV.com, which holds the exclusive rights for online broadcasts, has allowed three domestic Web sites - Sohu.com, Pps.tv and Uusee.com - to offer live streaming of the Olympic events for the country's 221 million net users.

The International Olympic Committee, for the first time, sold broadcast rights for television and new media, such as the Internet and mobile phones, separately.

## Chinese banks got US's nod to set up branches



Chinese banks will finally be approved for branches in the US.

Xinhua Photo

By Huang Daohen

Obstacles have been cleared for two Chinese state-owned banks - the Industrial and Commerce Bank of China (ICBC) and the China Construction Bank (CCB) - to set up branches in the US, *Beijing Youth Daily* reported Wednesday.

The US Federal Reserve was initially stalling on granting licenses to ICBC and CCB, which are backed mainly by China's sovereign wealth fund, the China Investment Corporation (CIC).

But the country made assurances the CIC would not

interfere in the operation of the two banks, and would play according to market rules, the report said.

Liu Mingkan, chairman of China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC), met with Ben Bernanke, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, during the fourth Sino-US Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED) to urge the Federal Reserve to accelerate approval of the banks' applications to set up branches in the US.

Bernanke said the applications were being reviewed, and

the US had no doubt of the qualifications of the banks.

Insiders with CBRC said news of an ICBC New York branch being officially approved might be released soon.

According to US Federal Reserve's rule, overseas banks seeking to set up branches in the US need first to be approved by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the New York State Banking Department, and then by the Federal Reserve Board.

An ICBC spokesperson said on June 15 that the application had been approved by the first two, but the Federal Reserve was holding back.

China agreed, during the fourth SED, that CIC would make its investment decisions strictly on a commercial basis while the US reaffirmed its promise for financial openness and promised to accept the banks' branch office applications.

After the SED, CBRC approved the application of Credit Suisse for the establishment of a joint venture securities company in China. Morgan Stanley and Citibank have submitted similar applications, but approval has thus far been withheld.

## Boom time for foreign banks in China

By Huang Daohen

The number of foreign banks in China may reach 100 by 2011 from the current 76, according to a prediction by PricewaterhouseCoopers consulting.

A poll of 42 foreign banks conducted by the firm said nine of projected at least 100 percent revenue growth this year and 16 expected growth to be in the range of 40 to 100 percent.

## MUJI opens its second largest flagship

By He Jianwei

Japanese company MUJI opened its second store in Beijing recently at China Central Place, which is bigger than any MUJI outside the company's flagship location in Japan.

The store is three times bigger than its first store in Joy City, Xidan, which opened this March. The second store offers more products and features as variety of furniture with different materials and sizes.

One part of the store is devoted to displays of food and cosmetics. "To import food and cosmetics requires special inspection. We hope to sell those products in Beijing within the year," Tadimitsu Matsui, chairman and representative director of MUJI, said.

## British Airways offers student package

By Li Jing

British Airways is offering a student package this year to meet the demands of the yearly swell of student passengers.

The package, valid for departure from Beijing or Shanghai before March 31 next year, includes fully flexibility in date changes and no restrictions on changes within one year.

Customers holding valid student visas are permitted to check 46 kilograms of baggage in addition to two carry-on items.

The airline is repositioning itself from servicing high-end customers to a broader mix.

## Shama unveils first luxury apartments

By Han Manman

Shama Group, a provider of luxury boutique-serviced apartments, began selling its first Beijing property, Shama Luxe Chang'an, Wednesday.

Adjacent to Chang'an Avenue, Shama Luxe Chang'an blends tradition with modernity and offers international leisure travelers and business professionals an urban retreat.

"With Shama Luxe Chang'an, the brand hopes to set the highest benchmark for the serviced apartment market in Beijing," Elaine Young, CEO, said.



# Passenger perishes in transit

By Li Fenghua

Should one dial 120 or 110 when a first aid emergency occurs? A bus conductor chose the latter when a middle-aged passenger surnamed Zhang went into sudden cardiac arrest and died.

Zhang's family sued the bus company for wasting valuable rescue time and asked for 200,000 yuan compensation.

Liuli Court of Justice of Pudong district, Shanghai, overruled the appeal of Zhang's family after hearing the case.

At about 9 pm last December, Zhang, a Shanghai inhabitant, suddenly felt uncomfortable while on the No. 970 bus when it arrived at the Zhangyang intersection on Dongfang Road. He collapsed slowly into a nearby

empty seat and coughed.

Assuming Zhang was intoxicated and about to vomit, the bus conductor immediately rushed to his aid and offered him a plastic bag. The other passengers on the bus suggested the conductor call 120 for medical assistance. Instead of calling 120, he called 110, since dialing 120 is not a free call.

Zhang had lost consciousness

by the time the police reached the bus. The officers called 120 immediately. The victim stopped breathing and his body became stiff when the ambulance arrived 10 minutes later.

According to the autopsy report, Zhang died of Sudden Cardiac Death caused by high blood pressure accompanied by atherosclerosis.

## Comment

### Rescue time wasted

Zhang entered into a contract with the bus company when he boarded the bus. It is the bus company's duty to transport passengers safely to their destinations. When they discovered that Zhang was in a dangerous situation on the bus, they should have carried out some appropriate measures.

But they didn't call 120 in time. The bus company should take responsibility for my husband's death.

— Wang, Zhang's wife.

### Company fights back

Zhang's death was due to his own health problems. It is not our duty to be responsible for his health. The conductor called 110 when Zhang felt uncomfortable. It is unreasonable for Wang to claim "We lost the best rescue time." We did all we could do.

— The bus company

### Judge backs bus company

The bus company doesn't have to bear the responsibility. We judge the bus conductor's acts according to the circumstances, not by the outcome of the accident.

According to the rules of common sense, the bus company employee couldn't decide whether the disease was severe enough to call for medical assistance.

— Liuli Court of Justice

### Life is more important

No matter in what kind of condition, life is the most important. And we should try the best to save people.

— David, editor

### Medical system needed

Zhang's case shows that the buses need a medical assistance system. More lives will be saved if such a system is advanced.

— Jina, local resident

## Car wreckage used as warning in Qinghaihu



By Li Fenghua

Local authorities in Qinghaihu, Qinghai Province, put the wreckage from the traffic accident on a pillar beside

the highway Wednesday as a grim, warning to travelers to drive carefully.

Although it gives a vivid depiction of a traffic accident,

some people think such acts may revive bad memories for survivors of severe traffic accidents.

Statistics from the Ministry

of Transportation show that road accidents claimed 81,649 lives nationwide last year, 7,806 fewer than in 2006.

CFP Photo



Peking Opera goes back to school

Rewards for relinquishing seats



Two kidney transplants rejected by regulations

Background

Eastern and western viewpoints meet here



## 洋腔论见

文化差异的碰撞与融合



Film shoot paralyzes city

Transformer substation breeds controversy

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# Foreign Olympics volunteers trained in Beijing

By Zheng Lu

"My pant size is 5XL here in China!" exclaimed Cameron Coker, an overseas Olympics volunteer who found the size of his work clothes much larger than in the US.

Twenty-four Olympic News Service (ONS) volunteers from the University of Iowa arrived in Beijing on Sunday. They are the first group of volunteers of the 292 foreign volunteers for the ONS. These special volunteers will offer journalists from many countries "direct quotations" from the athletes during the Games.

Some of these 24 volunteers will undertake the task of collecting comments from the tennis and wrestling athletes regarding the competitions and facilities. Other volunteers will work in the Main Press Centre and the International Broadcast Centre. In addition, four of them will stay longer to offer voluntary services to the Beijing Paralympic Games, Sterling Bacher, the volunteer team's guide, said.

The postulants are here to attend a training course in Chinese culture from Monday to Friday this week at Tsinghua University. Most of them major in either journalism or Chinese communication. They are



An Olympic volunteer learns Chinese calligraphy from a teacher.

CFP Photo

selected through three rounds of tests held by the Beijing Organizing Committee of Olympic Games (BOCOG). The tests include news writing and role playing.

As ONS volunteers, they are required to write qualified news drafts right after watching the games or the sports videos. The volunteers are required to understand English slang because they may need to interview the athletes and jot down important points for the journalists.

Most volunteers have studied Chinese for one or two semesters in the US but will work in English when they take up their duties. Their Chinese ability is expected to help them live more expeditiously in China.

Life in Beijing seems rather attractive for the newly-arrived volunteers. Andrew Bassman who is going to work at the wrestling house said, "It is a good chance for me to attend the Olympics while learning another about culture."

"This is the first time I've had a chance to study Chinese calligraphy. It's very interesting," said a volunteer whose Chinese name is He Weili on the calligraphy class at Tsinghua University. Two hours later, the 24 postulants could write their names in Chinese using brushes and ink-slabs. They also wrote "I love Beijing" in Chinese.

Elinathan Ohiomoba, an English major, is a fan of tennis. "I play tennis a lot. I love watching matches, it gets me excited!" Elinathan said. She has longed to be a volunteer because she has loved the Olympics since she was ten years old. Now she has realized her dream. "It's wonderful to see people here prepare for the Games with all their hearts and souls," she said.

The one-week training course also includes touring interesting spots like the Great Wall and the Summer Palace in addition to attending a class on Media Environment in China and Chinese Culture and History. Xu Mengyao, an officer of the ONS said, all of the 292 foreign volunteers of the ONS from 10 different universities in the US, Britain and Australia will arrive in Beijing before July 9.



Paul Hughes (left) and his son. Photo provided by Paul Hughes

## Brit businessman sees great change in Chinese art

By Sun Jina

Paul Hughes, an art businessman from London, recently came to China to continue his China Chair Project (CCP). He said there have been great changes in Chinese art the past 20 years.

He was slightly verbose when he recalled his early experiences in China and his pursuit of arts. The first time he came to China was 1987. He said at that time art exhibitions had a really bad reputation.

"They could not be publicly displayed so the artists had to find a discreet storehouse for their exhibitions. Art exhibition has blossomed and born fruit during the past five years, which has certainly promoted world artists," Paul said.

Nowadays, Western museums are trying their best to nurture good relationships with some artists in China. They hope these artists will become future stars on the world of art and successfully represent Chinese art achievements. Since 2005, Western mainstream auction companies have paid more attention to the contemporary art works of China. The results have produced some top 10 best sellers, two are from China. Like other fields in China, art is advancing greatly.

As a businessman, Hughes has a very special opinion about the art changes in China over the past 20 years.

CCP can easily be looked upon as a frivolous action, but in fact, it is a very authentic artistic innovation, he explained. Throughout history, many great artists created works combining function and art. Nowadays, differences in art, sculpture and design is not that obvious anymore. They are few differences and they all seem to fuse together. Actually they have become one.

He thought these works from the Chinese point of view are no different. But Hughes thinks that the past, present and future come together perfectly through these works. "They show a really deep emotion which is hard to express in words. They all showed the limit of word expression," he said "They are a real reflection of the Chinese artists' genius," Hughes said.

## Graffiti Godfather goes hip hop

By Zhang Dongya

Kim, dubbed as the "Graffiti Godfather" in Korea, participated in "Graffiti Road," the first graffiti event in Beijing held at Solana of Chaoyang Park.

Some other well-known graffiti groups like "Beijing Penzi" and "Guanyin CREW" also took part and created graffiti on the spot.

The artwork will be exhibited in Shanghai and Guangzhou later. With the theme of "More Color, More Love," all the artwork will be sold after the exhibition and the money will be donated to the quake-hit areas to rebuild Hope Primary Schools. The graffiti exhibition will be moved to 798 in July.

Kim, 24, was born in Busan, Korea. In hip hop circles in Korea, Kim was called the "Graffiti Godfather." Just as the inseparability of graffiti and hip-hop, Kim founded a graffiti group, ARK, in 2003, and transformed it into a hip hop band later.

As the MC (Microphone Controller) in the band, Kim released some EPs titled "Hello, Relax", "No Smoking, No Life" and "ARK - 13k." He created graffiti combined with a music show featuring other band members of POP, Relax and Kritos. To Kim, graffiti and



ARK, founded in 2003 by Kim, creates graffiti and hip-hop.

Photo provided by POP

hip-hop will never part ways. In this exhibition, Kim created two pieces of graffiti, "Cry Out" and "Hip-hop."

Kim came to Beijing in 2002, and is now the art director of Perfect Media. He also owns a graffiti studio in Susan and has been commuting between Beijing and Susan

for years.

Kim refuses commercial artwork or performances. "All my graffiti artwork and music focuses on art itself," Kim said.

"I try to express what I see, hear and think in life through graffiti and music, and that is my only purpose for doing art. Therefore, I will never consider

living from art, or for any other commercial uses," he said.

POP, a member of ARK, also the only Chinese in the band, said they plan to hold a performance later this year at Mao Live or Star Live. "We will invite some bands to perform together, such as China MC Brothers (CMCB)," he said.



# French ambassador says no truth to boycott

By Han Manman

French Ambassador Herve Ladsous Monday denied recent rumors that the French embassy had shut down its visa department, effectively blocking Chinese people from touring France.

"The visa department continues to operate as usual," he said. The ambassador said he has seen a sharp decline in the number of Chinese people requesting visas the last few weeks.

According to statistics provided

by the embassy, the number of visas issued to Chinese tourists has fallen by 70 percent over the past three weeks, compared with the same period last year.

Rumors of an official boycott imposed by the Chinese government are also untrue, the ambassador said. "I have spoken with Chinese tourism officials who told me the government has not issued any notice to discourage tourists from going to France, and I believe them," Ladsous said.

He said the travel industry accounts for 6 percent of France's GDP, and there is no official figure yet to show how the fall in Chinese tourism has hit the country.

The ambassador said although the French side has considered possible reasons including the Sichuan earthquake, the upcoming Beijing Olympic Games and discontent about the disruption of the Olympic torch relay in Paris, they still cannot explain such a

sharp drop. Ladsous said even though Chinese officials denied the existence of a boycott, he still hopes the government can give a clear statement.

He was concerned about damage to France's image, and said he hoped the situation soon will improve. Ordinarily, this season would be the peak for Chinese tourists to France. In order to encourage tourism, Air France currently offers 4,900 yuan round-trip tickets.

## Institute opens city's Spanish corner

By Gan Tian

After two weeks of testing, the Institute Cervantes has opened Beijing's largest Spanish corner to language learners.

The corner's first session was June 7. "We ate Chinese food and drank Spanish sangria," Concha Benito, a teacher in the institute, said, "Since then, we meet every Saturday at 5 pm. Our aim is to practice Spanish in a relaxed atmosphere, to meet people from different countries, to make friends who can speak – a little at least – Spanish and to have fun."

The corner is located on the fourth floor of the institute, and will open at 6 pm every Saturday. Esperanza Zhang, an institute administrator, said some Spanish teachers have been preparing for the corner for a long time. While the corner is expected to attract more beginners, advanced learners can also go to practice oral Spanish.

Wu Manling, an institute spokesperson, said attendees will also see some discussions on Spanish culture and art.

"The city needs a Spanish corner. Beijing's Institute Cervantes is exactly the place we needed. It is a place of culture and art," Xue Hongyi, a Spanish student in Beijing University, said.

The Institute Cervantes is the city's Spanish cultural center and offers language classes, art and theater salons along with other activities designed to help spread Iberian culture in China. For more information about the Spanish corner or institute, call 5879 9666.

## Special workshop lets the disabled dance



Disabled and able bodied youths show their understanding of life through dance.

Photo provided by BC

By Jackie Zhang

Whether you are blind, have lost your arms or have been disabled, there are still ways to live a normal life and express yourself. To teach this message was the aim of this week's Creativity Through Dance Workshop.

This week, 30 youths, both disabled and not, participated in a special workshop designed for the disabled. The workshop, which ended yesterday, was organized by the British Council (BC), the Royal Ballet and the National Centre for the Performing Arts.

David Pickering, a soloist from the Royal Ballet, Jonathan Silverman, an arts education specialist from the US, and Pippa Cobbing, a creative ballet specialist from the Royal Opera House, took charge of the workshop.

The 30 participants were

divided in six groups. Silverman, as the main coach of the workshop, told the members what they needed to show in the dance, and then, Pickering and Cobbing helped them design movements.

"All the members were creative. I gave them the same instructions, but I saw each group represent the idea in different ways," Silverman said.

One topic for the youths was to show the vital force of the earth. Some groups presented the theme with soft gestures and some chose powerful actions.

He Jianxiu, a member with a congenital disability in his upper limbs, said she enjoyed the workshop. "I never danced before. It is a new and interesting experience for me," she said. "Although we danced with able bodied friends, I didn't feel uncomfortable and

embarrassed. We could do everything as well as them."

The workshop was not only a chance to further understanding, but also a moving experience. Every disabled youth was active in the dance activities. They were not afraid of using artificial limbs or show their weak points, and bravely performed each gesture, Silverman said.

"When we designed topics for them, we were really worried whether it would be too difficult. They did a wonderful job. They are really impressive, and I'm surprised they performed so well. I'm convinced that they know how to have fun, how to create and how to dance," Silverman said.

In September, when the Beijing Paralympic Games take place, 120 youths will come to Beijing to train with 120 Chinese youths.

## EU exhibits Olympic Spirit



The EU photo exhibition mixes old and new Olympic moments.

CFP Photo

By Zhou Xuan

The Olympic Spirit EU Photo Exhibition opened in Beijing Art Center at Gehua Tower last Friday.

The exhibition includes 209 photos selected for their high artistic quality. The collection includes a mixture of sports stars and classic sporting moments at past Olympic Games from the early 20th century to present day.

Jointly organized by the Delegation of the EU Commission in Beijing, Beijing Art Centre and the Slovenian embassy, the exhibition encapsulates the Olympic spirit as expressed by European athletes.

"The Olympics is not just about sport – it is built on three pillars: sport, education and culture. This exhibition is part of the EU's commitment to provide cultural exchange with China," Felicia Schwartz, the curator, said.

During the opening ceremony, EU Ambassador Serge Abou cut the ribbon with Marjan Cencen, Slovenia's ambassador.

Abou mentioned a fundamental principle of the Olympic Charter:

"The games are the ultimate expression of sporting culture, based on values of commitment and good example, as well as on ethical principles of loyalty, will and collaboration and the spirit of sacrifice," Abou said.

As the holder of EU presidency, Slovenia will end its term on June 30.

Other ceremony events included a rhythmic gymnastic ribbon show and a singing group.

The exhibition will continue till July 4.

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# Indie DM magazine shys away from mass media



Leo De Boisgisson, Zhang Ge, Dorothea Adam and Audrey Salmon, from left to right, are the main persons of BUC. Photo provided by BUC

By Annie Wei

There are a dozen foreign-language DM magazines for Beijing's 80,000 registered expats.

Different from the mainstream English DM magazines in town like *The Beijinger*, *CityWeekend*, *TimeOut* and the new *Agenda*, which try to cover as many spots as possible, an indie magazine called *Beijing Under Construction* (BUC) has a smaller scope.

Although BUC is a small free magazine, its music-oriented and daily life contents have aroused the interest of many.

It mainly focuses on independent music, art, literature and film, but there is a special section that spotlights Beijing-flavored anecdotes from daily life. As often as they can, art and literature-related articles are included.

BUC is 36 pages and the size of a man's wallet because

the publishers expect readers to carry it in their pockets.

Dorothea Adam, 26, Germany, Leo De Boisgisson, 31, French, and Audrey Salmon, 31, from the US are from the Yugongyishan, a place and a name noted for Beijing's live music scene.

Adam came to Beijing for her Chinese husband four years ago, and Boisgisson is concert promoter, a party organizer and a free lance writer for some western magazines and has been here for 10 years. Salmon is a graphic designer and photographer living in China for three years.

They got to know each other at Yugongyishan's former venue near the Workers' Stadium. Boisgisson always wanted to do a magazine while Adam, who is studying cultural science likes to look out for those poetic moments that happen in daily life occasionally.

As they all like to promote indie projects in Beijing, they started to work on something that would be different from the Yellow Pages for expats and to support friends in various cultural fields.

The small brochure of BUC is a contribution of the Yugong Yishan Team, Adam said. An American friend helps with proofreading and two Chinese friends with Chinese translation, and Francois Salvado, also from France, is the main photo contributor.

"We are selective with contents," Boisgisson said. There is a column in the June issue titled, "Yao bu yao," which means do it or do not."

Boisgisson said that the idea was from Beijing's 10 dos and 10 don'ts concept, but they wanted to re-interpret Beijing's characteristics in a different way.

In terms of distributing their Boisgisson magazines, they only select small and independent bars instead of big commercial venues. Since the small magazine contains no advertising, Adam and Boisgisson maintain the freedom to say yes or no and choose what they personally like as far as content goes.

Over a half a year, BUC has produced 4,000 copies each month. It is also working on an online edition.

They have received positive feedback, Adam said. People like the design, which is created by Salmon.

They hope BUC can grow but not in a mass media way, otherwise it might lose its original taste and pureness.

Meanwhile, they hope more Chinese will contribute to BUC and the magazine will not be just a foreign thing.

## WWF encourages Chinese youth to address global warming

By Jackie Zhang

Nine videos themed global warming and energy sources sustainable development and produced by university students were awarded by the World Wild Foundation (WWF) Monday. "The video competition is an important part of WWF Global Focus project targeting young people's leading ability for energy sustainable development," Liu Wanying, the project manager, said.

The video collection started in March at Communication University of China (CUC), the project partner. "The videos must show the students' thoughts on global warming and solutions. There are no limitations on the filming style. Creativity, editing, direction, sound effects and photography are the five elements

that come into play when we judge the works," Liu said.

The project is to encourage young people to provide solutions for global climate change, resource distribution and sustainable usage. In the final stage, nine videos were selected to compete for each award. Expenses for shooting the videos was provided by the WWF.

He Pan, a graduate student from Television and Journalism School, produced a video centering on a milk cow with his group mates. "Volatile organic compounds (VOC) or cow gas made by cows is one of the main reasons for global warming, according to a report from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 2006. It damages the atmosphere more severely than

auto exhaust," He said.

In order to film cows' lives, He's group went to Inner Mongolia for 10 days. "Since it was the season that cows contracted disease easily, we were not allowed to enter the farm. Then, we visited a local farmer's home to take a closer look at milk cows."

He's video explains how the atmosphere is damaged by a cow's gas. He named his piece, "A Milk Cow's Diary." "In late editing, we invited students from the acting department to dub for the cow," he said.

He Pan said that in the past they usually focused on environmental issues by taking photographs and making reports. "It is the first time we have had the chance to make an independently-produced video on the subject."

"The video competition will continue at CUC. Next time, students will be given a longer period for preparation," Liu said.

"It is the first year of the Global Focus project. The winners will have the chance to compare notes with journalists from foreign media in the future. A thesis competition on the same theme was done at Beijing University this year as well." According to Liu, the video competition was started in China first. Later, it will be held in foreign countries including Sweden, the US and India.

WWF pushes for the local universities to focus their projects on localization in China. "Universities and schools have strong organizing abilities which can help the project run smoothly," the foundation said.

### Event

#### Booktalk: The Three Faces of Chinese Power

Based on extensive interviews with elite political leaders, diplomats, and others in China and beyond, *The Three Faces of Chinese Power: Money, Might and Minds* investigates the military, economic, and intellectual dimensions of China's growing influence. Providing a fresh perspective from which to assess China – how its strengths are changing, where vulnerabilities and uncertainties lie, and how the rest of the world should view it, Professor David M. Lamp-ton's new book is a fascinating study of contemporary China.

Where: The Bookworm, Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District

When: July 1, 7:30 pm

Tel: 6586 9507

#### How to appreciate Chinese calligraphy

Poetry, calligraphy and painting are always one for traditional Chinese scholars and artists. This carefully-designed PowerPoint show will be a historical retrospective of Chinese calligraphy, from the evolution of scripts, famous calligraphers to different schools and aesthetic values.

Next, the artist will explain how the Chinese appreciate and enjoy their own calligraphic works, which they regard as the highest form of art.

Where: Chinese Culture Club, Kent Center, No 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: July 2, 7:30-9:30 pm

Cost: 50 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341

#### Documentary: The Pediatrics Department

In 2004, three doctors quit their jobs at the Pediatrics Department of Anhui Ningguo People's Hospital to go work in a private hospital. The remaining seven doctors had to manage 41 in-patients as well as the out-patient department. Overworked and exhausted, but led by a valiant department director, the doctors fought a seemingly endless war against worsening working conditions and competition from a newer hospital.

Where: Yugongyishan, Zhang-zizhong Lu 3-2, west courtyard former site of Duan Qirui Government, Dongcheng District

When: June 29, 8 pm

Cost: 40 yuan, 20 yuan (students)

Tel: 6404 2711

#### Barry Brake Trio at OT Lounge

Hailing from San Antonio, Texas, pianist and composer Barry Brake landed in the capital after celebrating over 15 years of music-making with his band Jazz Protagonists.

Where: OT Lounge, 6 Ritan Lu 1/F Sunjoy Mansion, Jianguomen near the St. Regis Hotel, Chaoyang District

When: July 4, 6 pm

Tel: 6585 3406

(By He Jianwei)



# New Beijing organic product guide released

By Annie Wei

With an increasing awareness of health and environmental issues, more people have interest in organic food. To promote a healthy diet and benefit the environment, Greenpeace Beijing released the 2008 edition of its organic guide yesterday.

According to Greenpeace's research with Ipsos, a market researching and consulting firm, over 80 percent of Beijingers would like to buy organic products.

The *Beijing Organic Guide 2008* is a 24-page brochure. It has gathered information from over 60 merchants including farms, exclusive stores and restaurants that grow, sell and deliver organic food.

It is divided into nine sections: associations that help suburban areas start organic farming, farms, retailers, restaurants, organic life-experiencing venues, online ordering sites, supermarkets with organic sections, organic teas and a Q&A section.

Greenpeace will distribute 15,000 copies of the guide in Beijing. For others who have an interest in knowing more, the guide can be downloaded at [greenpeace.org/china/zh/reporters2/organic](http://greenpeace.org/china/zh/reporters2/organic).

Some information from the new edition is already well-known by Beijing organic diners. Below is a list of new or less-known places selected by *Beijing Today*:

## Guoren city and countryside mutual cooperation

Guoren was started by some professors at Renmin University

who wanted to help farmers produce pesticide-free rice. The association aims to build a positive sales channel between organic farmers and urban consumers and to increase farmers' incomes.

What it sells: grain, honey and oil  
Where the products come from: 10 farming bases around Beijing, like Henan and Hebei provinces

Tel: 8174 5411 for delivery  
Web: [green-coop.cn](http://green-coop.cn)

## Guoren green association

The association was founded by Wen Tiejun, a leader and scholar involved in farming issues.

What it sells: fruits, grains, team and dry food

Where the products come from: Shanxi, Jilin, Shangdong, Henan and Hubei Province

Tel: 5275 5047/ 8250 9106, for delivery

Web: [lslm.org](http://lslm.org) or [3nong.org](http://3nong.org)

## Organic life experience stadium

It was founded by the Ministry of Commerce and COFCO and has been open to the public since March this year. It aims to promote organic industry development in China and holds health lectures for the public frequently.

Where: Floor 2, Sanli Dasha, No 208, Andingmen Wai Dajie

What it sells: organic old, vegetable, fruits, honey, dried fruits and dairy, drinks, ingredients and organic cosmetic products.

Where the products come from: organic-certificated manufacturers  
Tel: 6420 3392

Web: [ocex.com.cn](http://ocex.com.cn)



An Jinlei, an organic farmer from Zaoqiang County, Hebei Province.

Photo provided by Greenpeace

# Procedures for lost passports

By Annie Wei

Losing a passport in China can cause big problems. Without a passport, one cannot check into a hotel, board a plane or get money wired from a home country through Western Union.

If you ever find yourself in the precarious position of losing your passport, here's what to do.

After losing a passport, the passport holder needs to go to the nearest police station to claim the loss. Then you take the proof of loss from the police station to your home country's embassy to apply

for a new passport or a temporary certificate that allows you to board a plane home.

This is very important. The passport holder must go to the nearest police station that is located in and oversees the area in which you lost your passport.

According to some, it was very frustrating when they reported their loss to the wrong police station.

And there are many other details you need to look after when you request a lost passport certificate of proof from the Exit and Entry Bureau.

You will need:

- A certificate from the police station that proves you lost your passport

- If you are a foreigner working in Beijing, the introduction letter from your company

- Other certificates that can verify your ID, such as your driver's license, your work card or social insurance card and their copies. If you do not have any other certificate that can verify your ID, you need obtain proof from your home country

- If you are checked into a hotel, you will need to show your hotel

card. If you live in an apartment you bought or are renting or are staying with friends in Beijing, you will need to show your temporary residence permit.

- One passport size photo

## Where to go

Visit No 12 window of the Exit and Entry Bureau in Xiaojieqiao, Dongcheng district

Go to your home country embassy for a new passport or temporary proof to exit China

Get a visa at the Exit and Entry Bureau with your lost passport certificate of proof and the temporary file.

# Save money abroad, use yinlianka

By Sun Feng

For many expats in town, visiting South Korea or Japan is a convenient holiday trip. To cope with price hikes, *Beijing Today* suggests a convenient way to save money by using *yinlianka*, China's UnionPay Cards (CUP).

Most cards issued by Chinese banks are in the *yinlianka* system, as long as it bears the CUP logo, including credit cards, quasi-credit cards, debit cards, savings cards and wage cards.

Many people think that only

credit cards can be used abroad for Chinese yuan and US dollars. In fact, by the end of this month, tourists from China and abroad can swipe *yinlianka* in 28 countries and regions of Asia, Europe, the US, Africa and Oceania. Tourists need not worry about their cards being limited to certain currencies.

According to the *yinlianka* office, transactions abroad will be carried out using local currency at current exchange rates, whereas the consumption total will be debited via the CUP card-

holder's RMB account.

It does not require any currency conversion fees or cross-border transaction costs for tourists.

If you want to withdraw local currencies from an ATM machine abroad, you are advised to have *yinlianka* issued by Huaxia Bank since it is free of charge for the first three currency withdrawals from an ATM every day.

To apply for any *yinlianka*, the procedures for foreigners and local Chinese are the same. Remember to apply for one with your pass-

port.

If your *yinlianka* is swallowed by any ATM machine in China or abroad, just talk to the bank outlet within three days and do not forget to bring your passport or ID card.

For any other *yinlianka* services or questions, call (86) 95516 anytime.

By the way, *yinlianka* holders can give 10 percent discount by joining Travelusion's tourism group leaving for Japan or South Korean on July 12 or 24.

## ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: [weiyiing@ynet.com](mailto:weiyiing@ynet.com)

**I want to apply for a Chinese government scholarship. Do you know how much I can get for living here per month?**

Due to the rocketing prices of daily necessities, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Finance released a notification last Wednesday that increases the scholarships and the living expenses of foreign students who are granted Chinese government scholarships.

The increase is tallied from the first day of 2008. Undergraduates get 1,400 yuan per month per person, postgraduates 1,700 yuan, with a Ph.D that amount increases to 2,000 yuan.

In addition, since January, freshmen who plan to study in China for one school year get a 1,500 yuan one-time settlement allowance in the first month, if they plan to study less than one school year, a 1,000 yuan one-time settlement allowance in the first month is handed out.

**I heard some Chinese children call a policeman "Jincha shushu." Doesn't that mean, "Uncle policeman?" Do Chinese people think that's funny?**

The Chinese use familiar terms as a form of respect for non-family members of the older generation. For example, more and more people from outside Beijing commonly refer to older men or women as *daye* or *dama* meaning grandpa or grandma. A great majority of expats call their cleaning lady *ayi* meaning auntie.

**I heard that the clothing market in Wudaokou, the one near China University of Geosciences is closing down? Is it true? I was thinking of going there, but I would like to know in advance if it's a wasted trip.**

That market is still there. According to a *Beijing Today* school intern, the market is under renovation and plans to re-open shortly. Currently, you can go to a new big clothes market there. You will see it when you exit the Wudaokou subway station. It's a tall building with many students hanging out there and bargaining. The younger crowds think it is worth visiting.

**Is that true that the outdoor swimming pool at the south gate of Workers' Stadium is closed? Can you suggest any other cheap places to go swimming outdoors?**

Yes, that pool is closed. You can pay 90 yuan each time to swim at the Season's Park outdoor pool, which will be open on July 1.

(By Wei Ying/Bai Jingnan)



# Seeking tranquility

## Lu Yongzhong applies traditional techniques to his designs

Banmoo, founded two years ago in Shanghai by Lu Yongzhong, is a Chinese brand that creates simple, stylish and tasteful furniture and daily accessories. From June 21 to July 21, Lu gave his first solo furniture works exhibition at S.A.Y Fine Art in Beijing with pieces of the furniture, accessories and photographs of architectural designs.

In Shanghai, Banmoo has had a boutique in Xintiandi for two years. "Most expats like to buy the larger pieces of furniture while most Chinese buy accessories in our store," Niu Bin, brand director of Banmoo, said.

Banmoo's design uses techniques and handicrafts in an elegant but low key, profound but simple, mild but implicit way, while other designers endeavor to create unconventional originality.

### Mixing traditional with today

Looking at Lu's furniture creations, viewers can sense the Chinese characteristics, but cannot tell the dynasty from whence they originated. No matter a chair, table or bench, the designer made them as simple and practical as possible.

"I'm using modern design, but I try my best to maintain our Chinese designing style in the context of modern society. I am always curious to find elements from our tradition and history to reveal the Chinese lifestyle in modern life," Lu said.

Chinese designers used to copy Western techniques, but many hope their works can embody their own spirit, Lu said. He graduated from the Architecture Department of Tongji University and made Bauhaus works his first few years after graduation.

Lu changed his design from an architectural space design to a more human design. He found wood was the best vehicle full of oriental characteristics and idiosyncrasies.

In the Western world, people use stone to build a house, but in oriental society, people prefer to use wood. "Wood can mirror natural life. It is soft and tenacious, with strong plasticity," he said.

Wood represents the ideas and characters of oriental society, because "wood, as a kind of material, has a long history and can easily express the emotions of our oriental people," he said.

This age old tradition has become a kind of burden for Chinese designers. In order to get rid of the burden, Lu combined modern elements into his designs. All the designs are born from the needs of modern life. The first piece of furniture he designed was a table, because he needed a table in his house.

"I don't like when people say this table looks like it's from Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD) and this chair from Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). There is no concept of 'dynasty' in my works. I hope people will imagine and recall our traditions," he said.

**Chinese designers used to copy Western techniques, but many hope their works can embody their own spirit, Lu said. He graduated from the Architecture Department of Tongji University and made Bauhaus works his first few years after graduation.**



Walking Table

### In harmony with the environment

Ancient Chinese philosophy advocates harmony with nature. "The furniture must be harmonious with the environment in the house and with the people who live in the house," he said.

Banmoo's furniture is popular in Shanghai, because it can easily match the environment of any house. "If you decorate your house in traditional Chinese style, the furniture matches your decorations. If your decorations are modern, our furniture also matches," he said.

Ancient China is imagination in print and movies. "The ancient Chinese furniture was harmonious with the atmosphere of ancient times and could be showcased in a museum," he said.

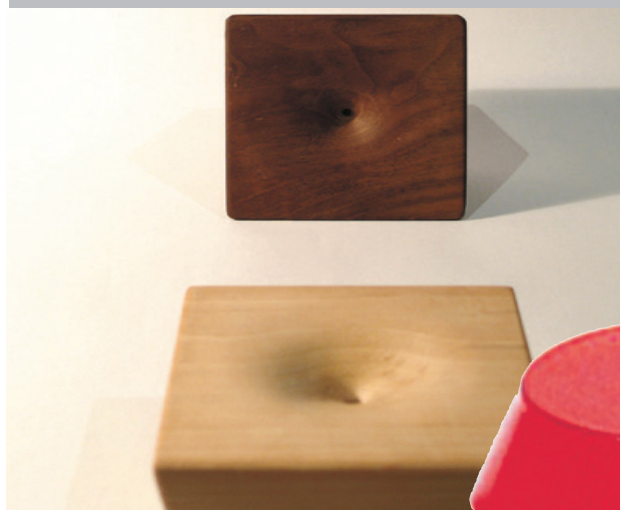
Urban life is too noisy and fast for Lu. He tries to find tranquility in his designs. In his Joss Stick series, Lu wished to give people the chance to escape the bustling, loud city.

"To burn incense in a home is a way to look back at tradition, and also to relax in modern society," he said. Some of his furniture designs allow this luxury.

To make everything simple is Lu's top priority in his designs. Maybe it is the reason that his furniture matches different decorations in the house. "An American interior designer living in Shanghai for more than five years once said he couldn't find too many traditional Chinese icons in my works," he said.

### The New Application of Traditional Folk Art Techniques – Furniture Works of Lu Yongzhong

**Where:** S.A.Y Fine Art, B 101, D Park, 798 Art District, 2, Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang  
**When:** Until July 21  
**Tel:** 6436 3122



Fountain Music Box



Candle Holder



# in urban life

By He Jianwei

"Half leaves room for more is the philosophy of my design brand," Lu Yongzhong, founder and chief designer of Banmoo, said. The brand, based in Shanghai, focuses on designs. Looking at Banmoo furniture, viewers can sense a Chinese style that brings together traditional and modern elements.

## Architectural utopia

Lu's pictures of architecture designs are exhibited on the wall of the gallery. One of the designs is a boat floating on the water.

Lu once visited a reservoir in Anhui Province with his friends and they traveled by boat. One of his friends uttered a sigh and remarked what a wonderful life it was in the reservoir and decided to buy an island there. But Lu challenged the idea, saying it would ruin the environment and suggested his friend build a boat and live on it.

After their visit, Lu started to design a boat, but the project was aborted due to outside forces.

"The fishermen had a contract with the local government and they didn't want us to build a boat on the reservoir," Lu said.

The hermit spirit is what Lu pursues in his designs. "Urban life forced me to find a place to relax spiritually. It doesn't mean I don't care about society. I just want to slow down the speed of life," he said.

## Half means whole

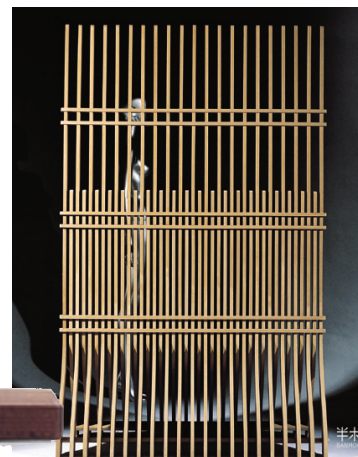
Banmoo in Chinese is Ban Mu. Mu means wood, while Ban means half. "Half leaves room for more is the philosophy of my design brand," he said.

Half describes an incomplete state. Compared with today's theory of "making full use of things," the concept of half seems to be precious.

"In today's world, we have consumed far too much of life. In Shanghai's subway stations, you see it evidenced in all the advertisements. People live in a full space with many desires," he said.

On the other hand, half means you can leave more space for imagination. When he exhibited his coat stand in Guangzhou last year, a visitor asked him whether his inspiration was from Africa.

In fact, his inspiration was from the Shanghai citizens who lived in the shanty areas. "I was surprised that my work made him think of Africa. I hope different people will get different feelings when he or she sees my works according to his or her own experiences," he said.



Calligraphy Screen

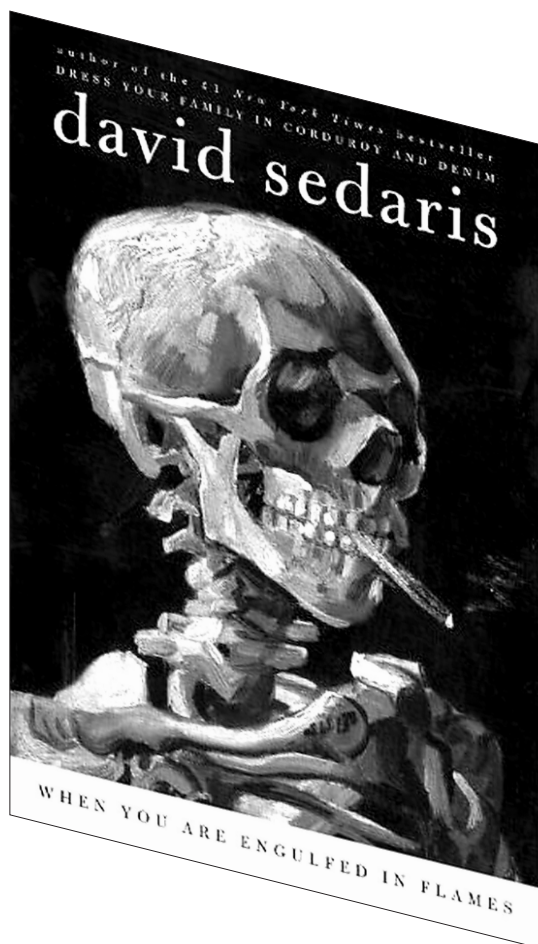
Half describes an incomplete state. Compared with today's theory of "making full use of things," the concept of half seems to be precious.

"An American interior designer living in Shanghai for more than five years once said he couldn't find too many traditional Chinese icons in my works."

Walking Series: Shelf Stand Photos provided by Lu Yongzhong

"I don't like when people say this table looks like it's from Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD) and this chair from Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). There is no concept of 'dynasty' in my works. I hope people will imagine and recall our traditions."





# Humorist's collection shows the essay is not dead yet

David Sedaris, the acclaimed humorist writer, is back with a new collection of comedic essays after his last collection, the 2004 release *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*.

Stories in *When You Are Engulfed in Flames* (336pp, Little, Brown and Company, US \$14.29) are mostly anecdotes that Sedaris says are 97 percent true, such as his fascination with dead bodies, fetching the dentures of a rude neighbor, language barriers in the waiting room, lancing of boils and a wall of album covers to scare away a flock of birds bent on entering his home.

The focus of the book is an 83-page piece on his journey to

Japan to kick his smoking habit – the vice which claimed his mother's life. The story was heavily abridged and published in *The New Yorker*, though *New York Times* reviewer Vanessa Gioria-dis said that the abridgment was almost a more satisfying read than the original.

For readers unfamiliar with Sedaris's past works, his stories flow like a stream of consciousness, somehow bending and folding until they twist into a fable-like ending.

The collection of 22 essays consists almost entirely of previously-published essays that appeared in *The New Yorker* and *This American Life*. Critics of the book say

Sedaris is close to exhausting his material, and that the stories are twisted and bent to their endings.

The author has clearly hit mid-life. With his prime behind him and darker years ahead, he looks back at where the last 50 years went and how he can prevent the next 50 from falling away as fast.

Sedaris, 51, is a Grammy Award-nominated American humorist, writer, comedian and radio contributor. He has published several collections of essays, mostly autobiographical and self-deprecating. He has lived in France for most of the last decade though he cannot speak the language.

(By Derrick Sobodash)

## Wenchuan before and after the earthquake

By He Jianwei

Last Wednesday, a journalist who covered the Wenchuan quake released a book based on his experience. It records the stories of the quake's survivors and how the rescue teams saved many.

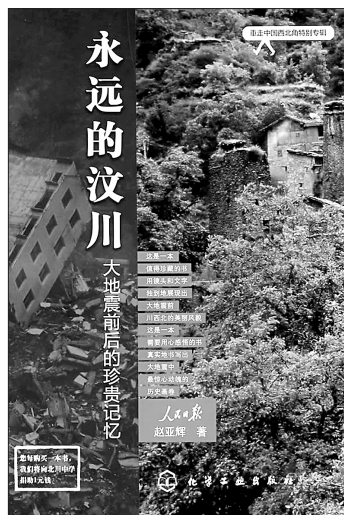
Zhao Yahui, author of *Forever Wenchuan: The Precious Memories Before and After the Earthquake* (244pp, Chemical Industry Press, 36 yuan), traveled to north-east Sichuan Province twice in recent years and compared the changes in the region before and after the earthquake.

"The changes ... touched me a lot, as I visited the places in Sichuan before and after the disaster. The Chemical Industry Press will donate 1 yuan from the sale of each book to the students in Beichuan Middle School bound for college this year," Zhao Yahui, a senior journalist for the *People's Daily*, said.

*Forever Wenchuan* includes five chapters and 424 pictures taken in Wenchuan, Beichuan, Mianyang, Jiangyou and Maoxian.

Zhao interviewed Chen Yan, an independent volunteer who rescued more than 20 people. "I came here because I am alive," Chen said. Zhang Xiaoping, who survived after being buried for 129 hours, said, "I want to live even though I lost my leg." Another woman, Huang Li, sang to her husband to keep up his spirits while he was trapped in the wreckage.

"Zhao revealed the soul-stirring stories that happened in the



earthquake with his words and pictures. It is why his blog reached 10,000 clicks within 10 days," Chen Tong, the chief editor of Sina.com, said.

The author visited northeastern Sichuan last August and covered stories in Wenchuan, Beichuan and Mianyang showcasing the history and customs of the areas.

As well as the disaster reports, he describes the history and culture of Qiang minority in the areas. Wenchuan and Beichuan are the main areas for the Qiang minority group. The author introduced their architecture, costumes, music, dance and customs.

"He gave us the breath-taking report after the earthquake and the picturesque scenery before," Shan Zhiqiang, chief editor of *Chinese National Geography*, said.

## CNPIEC Bookstore book listing

The China National Publication Import and Export Corporation's (CNPIEC) bookstore recommends the following new arrivals to *Beijing Today* readers.

### The Great Gatsby

By F. Scott Fitzgerald, 180pp, Scribner, 130 yuan

This is a story told by Nick Carraway, who was once Jay Gatsby's neighbor. Jay Gatsby's lavish lifestyle in a mansion on Long Island's gold coast encapsulates the spirit, excitement and violence of the era Fitzgerald named "the Jazz Age." Impelled by his love for Daisy Buchanan, Gatsby seeks nothing less than to recapture the moment five years earlier when his best and brightest dreams – his "unutterable visions" – seemed to be incarnated in her kiss.

### The Queen's Fool

By Philippa Gregory, 512pp, Touchstone, 160 yuan

In winter 1553, Hannah Green, a fourteen-year-old Jewish girl pursued by the Inquisition, is forced to flee Spain with her father. But Hannah is no ordinary refugee. Her gift of "sight," the ability to foresee the future, is priceless in the troubled times of the Tudor court. Hannah is brought to court as a "holy fool" for Queen Mary and, ultimately, Queen Elizabeth. Hired as a fool but working as a spy, Hannah must choose between the safe life of a commoner and the dangerous intrigues of the royal family that are inextricably bound up in her own yearnings and desires.

### The Bookwoman's Last Fling

By John Dunning, 352pp, Scribner, 100 yuan

When wealthy horse trainer Geiger dies, Denver bookman Cliff Janeway encounters the legacy of the man's wife, Candice, a true bookwoman who left behind an assortment of rare first-edition children's books. Sent to assess the collection, Janeway soon finds that several titles are missing, replaced by cheap reprints – while other hugely expensive pieces remain. Suspecting foul play, Janeway follows the trail of Candice's shadowy past to California's Golden Gate and Santa Anita racetracks. When he goes to the house where Candice died to look for answers, he finds much more than he bargained for.

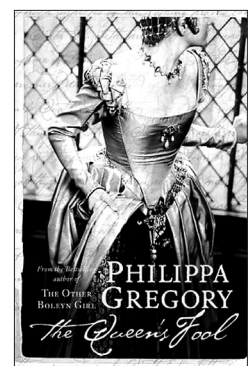
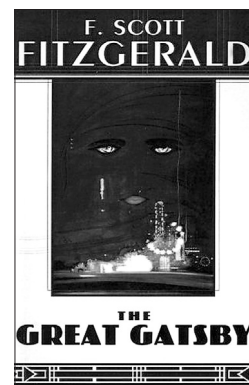
### CNPIEC Bookstore

Where: the second floor of CNPIEC, No 16 Gongti Dong Lu, Chaoyang

Open: 8:30 am – 6:30 pm

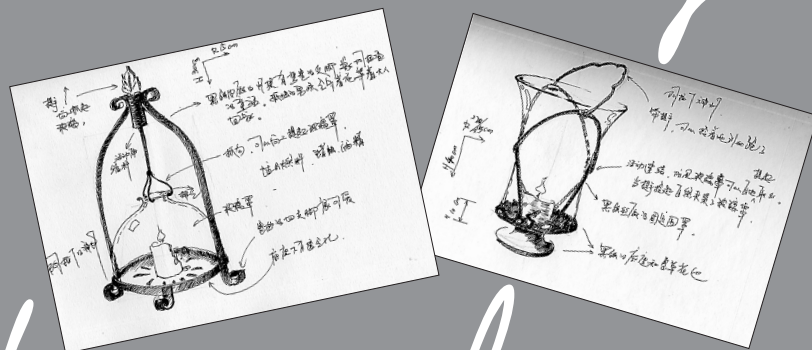
Tel: 6500 1859, 6592 6871

(By Zhang Dongya)





# Blog drawings say what words cannot



By He Jianwei

Handwritten picture books are recent bestsellers in the Chinese market. Takagi Naoko, a Japanese author, has attracted a following of readers both in her home country and in China with her stories about Tokyo. Taiwan's Wan Wan made two picture books about her unwillingness of going to work and school. Of course, most people never manage to publish a picture book about their life and post drawings on their blogs.



Mango prefers to express his emotions through pictures rather than words. Illustrations by Mango

## Drawing daily life

"Pictures have a great visual impact and can easily convey to people what I do," Chen Yu, a graduate student at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, said.

On his Sina's blog ([blog.sina.com.cn/bluefisher](http://blog.sina.com.cn/bluefisher)), Chen drew some pictures about his college life. He began to make his series of *My College Life as A Senior Student* from 2005.

"In October, 2005, while surfing the Web, an idea popped into my head – there were few people recording their daily lives in drawings. It motivated me to post some of my own on the Internet," he said.

At first, he posted his drawings on the campus' BBS. When students found his diaries, it became big news. On December 13, 2005, Chen opened his blog on sina.com. His blog drew 2 million clicks within two years.

Chen's drawings are black and white. Each includes one sentence, and several pictures together tell the story of his day.

He is currently posting drawings about his internship in Shanghai. During the 48-weeks of work, he learned how to manage office relationships. "The office is a place where people earn money. In the morning, they come in from everywhere and in the evening, they flee for their home," he wrote in his internship series.

## A platform for illustration

"I prefer to express my emotions through pictures rather than words. Pictures leave more space for the imagination," Gong Lin, 34, a freelance illustrator who uses the penname Mango, said.

Mango posts his illustrations on his MSN space ([woxingzhe.spaces.live.com](http://woxingzhe.spaces.live.com)).

He usually draws pictures by hand and then scans them into the computer. Most of his drawings are not what he does in his daily life, but what he feels or dreams.

He also paints what he experiences, but does not express it directly. Mango lives in Chengdu, Sichuan Province and experienced the Wenchuan earthquake.

He drew a series of illustrations to express his condolences to the victims and encourage the survivors.

"My blog is not only a platform where I can show my works, but also an opportunity for me to get things done," he said.

Currently, Mango illustrates for several magazines, newspapers and books.

## Everyone can draw

Kazuhiro Kawai, 34, opened a Web site for people to draw pictures using the mouse.

His Web site ([pipa.jp/tegaki/](http://pipa.jp/tegaki/)) drew as many as 3 million clicks within four months. It has already ballooned to include 510,000 user-submitted works.

In January, Kawai opened the Web site. At first, he wanted to create a space for the Internet's graffiti artists. Its primary audience was Japanese teenagers who were interested in comic illustration.

Since its opening, the site has also drawn Chinese users. "I have no drawing skills. This Web site makes it easy for me to draw on computer. All I need to do is choose colors and then draw or write what I want with my mouse," Chen Bin, a reporter for a magazine, said.





# Packaging, a powerful sales pitch

By Gan Tian

A product initially attracts its buyers with its eye-catching packaging rather than its inner functions. There is a Chinese saying, *maid-uhanzhu*, that comes to light in a story told about a person who buys a pearl contained in a beautiful box, but the buyer returns the pearl and keeps the box because it is too beautiful. *Beijing Today* has found several worthy "pearl boxes." – the only difference is, the product within is so good that you will want to keep it as well.

## Pure water

When examining this package, it is hard to imagine what it is. The answer is drinking water. Usually, we buy pure water in easily-recognizable plastic bottles, which are never environmentally-friendly. The packaging here is slightly better since the water is in plastic bags. A little more convenient and easier to transport even though the plastic is still a no-no for the environment.

Available: G1, Shin Kong Plaza, Dawanglu, Chaoyang District

Price: 5 yuan per pack



## Red Monkey RMC Jeans

The jeans are packaged in a very delicately-designed wooden box. The ancient oriental pattern painted on the jeans marks it as typical RMC style. The silver shining logo of RMC is also on the wooden box. You could use the container as a candy box once you remove the jeans.

Available: RMC stores in town

Price: 400 - 800 yuan per pair



## Coffee Stick

The coffee is packaged in a small stick-like shape, so when you feel weary and need a very convenient coffee fix, take this coffee "stick" out, snip off the end and pour it into your cup. Since most people do not carry a spoon with them, the empty stick package can be used as a spoon to stir your coffee. Now if only it came with a little milk and sugar stick.

Available: G1, Shin Kong Plaza, Dawanglu, Chaoyang District

Price: 25 yuan per stick



## Difen Chocolate

Difen Chocolate sits in a tiny boat. Though a little crude in appearance, it still has a good structure and an eye-catching black-and-white logo that stands out amongst other chocolate brands in the supermarket. The boat contains two levels, in which the different flavored-chocolates are arranged separately.

Available: main supermarkets in town

Price: 25 yuan per pack

## Packaging history

Packaging is the science, art and technology of enclosing or protecting products for distribution, storage, sale and use. It also refers to the process of design, evaluation and production of packages. Personality packaging came on the scene at the beginning of the 1990s. "Some brands go overboard with their packaging designs. When this happens, the value of a well-designed package is completely lost in influencing a purchase decision or reinforcing the brand. The package communicates both emotional and functional benefits to the buyer and should be in line with the brand's personality," Randall Frost wrote in *Packaging Your Brand's Personality*.



## Xioxin Make-up Package

The package contains face oils as well as hand and body lotions. If you are a businessman and stay at hotels frequently, this is a good choice. "We wanted to design a package to perfectly accommodate these bottles and make it round like the bottles," the promoter said, "and, by the way, we also use our packaging in promotional presentations."

Available: Vulcan-online.com

Price: unsettled



## Canned T-shirts

Unlike tuna, T-shirts packed in a can are not edible. You pull the rolled-up cotton article out of the can, unfold it and, Eureka! It becomes a T-shirt.

The patterns are shown on the can and you can only tell the shop owner your T-shirt size but cannot try it on. The wrinkles are what make this T-shirt special.

Available: F2, Building 9, Jianwai SOHO, Chaoyang District

Price: 280 yuan per can



## Absolute Vodka

Absolute Vodka is absolutely amazing with its firm paper package. Its thick cover contains a small printed introduction to the product. The bottom part of the package is even connected with needles and cotton threads. Only the best for vodka lovers!

Available: G1, Pacific Shopping Mall, A2, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang District

Price: 588 per bottle



# Discover your inner vegan

By Gan Tian

To be a vegetarian takes courage and patience. If you are not sure you are up to the task, a one-day trip to a vegetarian restaurant can be a way to test the waters. *Beijing Today* has some green treats for the scorching summer days. Try new dishes at old restaurants or see what some newer establishments can do with classic recipes.



Yunzhong Jinshu, Vegetarian Meat in a Tofu Wrap

## Tsinghua's other moonlit pool

By Gan Tian

Hetang Yue, a vegetarian restaurant located in Zhongguancun, is named for a scenic spot at Tsinghua University, where a clear pond reflects the moonlight. The restaurant helps diners cool off, just like taking an evening dip in the pond.

The restaurant's location has helped it develop a connection with scholars, students and college life. Each dish has a romantic name harvested from ancient poetry. Some diners said the names were too beautiful to remember.

Chenny Yang is not a vegetarian, but said he has been on a diet for days. He said Tai-chi Soup was the best thing he ever tasted. The soup follows the pattern of the Yin-Yang symbol, with green spinach juice and white organic milk circling each other.

"Xueyu Meihuacha, or Snow Plum Tea, only contains one or two plums, but still has a strong flavor," Yang said. He also liked the restaurant's Huamei Fan, or Plum Rice, which has a sweet and sour taste.

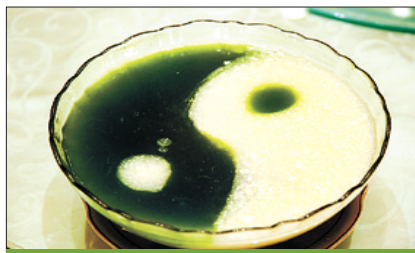
The restaurant is decorated like a warm and sweet bedroom for diners. Yang said the place is suitable for diners looking to enjoy afternoon tea rather than a dinner. It can provide a nice break from books and exams.

### Hetang Yue (Zhongguancun)

Where: F3, Disanji, 66 Beisihuan Xi Lu, Haidian District

Tel: 6268 0848, 6268 1318

Open: 11 am - 9:30 pm



Tai-chi Soup

Photo by Chenny Yang

## Buddhist books and dishes



Chancha Yiwei, Supreme Vegetarian Soup Assorted Mushrooms

By Zhang Dongya

While the Zhongguancun branch of Hetang Yue, Lotus in Moonlight, may be the best known, it hides another deep secret in a residential area surrounded by bamboo. Hetang is the first restaurant with its own built-in bookstore.

The restaurant was founded by a devout Buddhist, designed by a devout Buddhist and is full of Buddhist elements. The walls have Buddhist paintings and Buddhist music fills the restaurant.

The restaurant's bookstore sells, what else but special books on Buddhist topics.

Its main draw is guests who are not only hard core vegetarians, but also carnivores who are looking for something different.

The menu is divided into set meals named for the seasons. The Chinese names are too euphemistic to unravel the ingredients, so the contents of each dish are listed separately on the menu.

"(Our) vegetarian food is pure, with no eggs and no garlic.

Its main ingredients are bean products, mushrooms and leafy greens," Wang Zhong, 39, the head chef, said.

Wang recommended these three dishes:

Yunzhong Jinshu, Vegetarian Meat in a Tofu Wrap, 58 yuan, is a recommended appetizer, especially in summer. It is made of dried tofu and shaped like a traditional scroll.

Chancha Yiwei, Supreme Vegetarian Soup Assorted Mushrooms, 128 yuan, is a pot of soup but is consumed more like a cup of tea. "It is a new way to drink soup - just like enjoying a cup of tea, but with some syrup," Wang said.

Shuizhu Sanguo, Spicy Vegetarian Beef with Vegetarian Fish and Ham, named after a best seller. Its three main ingredients are vegetarian beef, fish and ham. The "Sanguo" in its name refers to the Three Kingdoms period.

### Hetang Yue: Zuojiashuang

Where: 12, Liufang Nan Li, Chaoyang District

Tel: 6465 3299, 6466 3114

Open: 11 am - 9:30 pm

Photos provided by Hetang Yue

## The strictest vegetarian fare

By Huang Weina

The vegetarian restaurant Gongdelin is named for a phrase in Buddhist scripture, "Be good to your people, just as the vast forests cover the earth." The restaurant spares no effort to lift up the hearts and souls of its diners.

Gongdelin Vegetarian Food Restaurant is only restaurant in Beijing to serve a strict Buddhist menu. It is ranked as a first class national restaurant and is characterized by "having flavors of meat of fish but without compromising the Buddhist proscription of flesh."

Orange Flavored Daisy Abalones, priced 188 yuan, are golden and light. Each is soaked in orange juice and lightly fried to bring out the citrus taste. The artificial abalones are made of tofu. Tofu products are a known cancer fighter and help control fat levels in the blood.

The Green Tea and Orange Fish Fillet, 48 yuan, is another dish with a good taste - a little tart: sweet but also salty. It looks like an ordinary fish fillet, and also has the same color and shape. But after you finish the first bite, you will not think so. The fillet is crispy outside and delicate inside. Juicy white gourd flesh and tea powder mixed with salad give the dessert a smooth taste.

The reopened Gongdelin integrates Chinese cuisine with Buddhist discipline. It has a clear, clean, pure and relaxed atmosphere.

### Gongdelin

Where: 2 Qianmen Dong Dajie, Chongwen District

Tel: 6511 2542

Open: 11 am - 9:30 pm

Photo provided by Gongdelin



The Green Tea and Orange Fish Fillet



# 5 Friday, June 27

## Exhibition Mind + Soul, Sensibility × Sensation



The inaugural exhibition features the works of Joe Diebes from New York and Hung Keung from Hong Kong. Both artists' works were inspired directly by their respective visions of China and the Yuanfen space.

Where: Yuanfen new media art space, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, until July 31

Admission: Free

## Inward – Installation and Sculpture Exhibition

The exhibition features Cao Hui, Chao Ziwei, Chao Ziyi, Huang Yang, Lei Hong, Li Hongjun, Liang Binbin, Liu

Xinyi, Liu Zhiyi, Wu Di, Wu Jian'an and Yang Shuai.

Where: PIFO New Art Studios, B-07 Beijing International Art Camp, Suojia-cun, Cuigezhuang, Chaoyang

When: Daily 10 am – 6 pm until July 20

Admission: Free

Tel: 6437 1792

## Love – Portrait Works by Chen Xinquan



Chen is skilled in oil painting and gouache and uses children as his main theme.

Where: Beijing Wan Fung Art Gallery, the Imperial Archives, 136 Nanchizi Dajie, Dongcheng

When: Mon-Fri 9 am – 5 pm, Sat-

## Upcoming

### Opera

#### Russia Star Ballet China Tour

Who: Moscow Theater of Russia and Maryinsk Theater

Where: National Grand Theater Opera House, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, June 28-29

Admission: 180-1,280 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

Sun 10 am – 5 pm, until July 7

Admission: Free

Tel: 6523 3320

### Movie

#### La Môme



Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7:30 pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

## Stage in July

### Concert

#### Bai Liang Violin Solo Concert

Who: Bai Liang

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: 7:30 pm, July 9

Admission: 120-380 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

#### Concert Opera Fidelio

Who: China National Symphony Orchestra

Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, July 6-9

Admission: 50-380 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

#### Concert by Macao Chinese Orchestra

Who: Macao Chinese Orchestra

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: 7:30 pm, July 12-13

Admission: 30-380 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

#### Alban Berg Quartet Concert

Who: Alban Berg Quartet

Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, July 15-16

Admission: 80-580 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

#### One World, One Dream –

#### Olympic Symphony Orchestra

Who: Sino-American Artists

Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, July 27

Admission: 80-780 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

### Opera

#### Aida

Who: Cairo Opera House

Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, July 12-13

Admission: 180-880 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

### Tosca

Who: Rome Opera House

Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, July 17-20

Admission: 180-880 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

### Dance

#### Kataklo Athletic Dance

#### Theatre China Tour

Who: Kataklo Athletic Dance Theater

Where: PKU Centennial Memorial Hall, 116 Zhong-guancun Bei Dajie, Haidian

When: 7 pm, July 11-12

Admission: 20-280 yuan

Tel: 6275 8452

#### Epic Dance Along the River During Qingming Festival

Who: Hong Kong Dance Company

Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, July 16-17

Admission: 100-600 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

(By Li Jing)

# 7 Sunday, June 29

## Exhibition

### Henri Gueguen Solo Exhibition



In Henri's current work, he expresses his homage to female stars of the world including many British icons, as well as saluting the fields of cinema, haute couture and music.

Where: XYZ Gallery, D 06-6-1, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 11 am – 6 pm, until July 17

Admission: Free

Tel: 8459 9299

### Beautiful Landscape, Ancient and Modern Care – Jiang Bo Photography Exhibition

Where: Cloud & Sky Photo Image Gallery, C3006 Brewery Art Complex, Beihuqu Lu, Andingmen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10:30 am – 5:30 pm, until July 6

Admission: Free

Tel: 5202 3892

### EU Photo Exhibition

The photos express the Olympic spirit as a philosophy of life, exalting and combining in a balanced whole, the qualities of body, will and mind.

Where: China Creative Connections, 8 Shuangsi Hutong, Jiugulou Dajie, Xicheng

When: Daily 10 am – 6 pm, until July 4

Admission: Free

Tel: 6400 0457

### Movie

#### The Pediatrics Department

The documentary film takes an inside look at the function and dysfunction of an Anhui hospital.

Where: Cherry Lane Movie, Yugong Yishan, 3 Zhangzizhong Lu, Xicheng

When: 8 pm

Admission: 20-40 yuan

Tel: 6404 2711

## Exhibition Concealment and Restructuring – New Mountains and Waters



Yao Lu's photography ingeniously found material that belongs only to him from his roots with his reconstruction of contemporary China's landscape.

Where: 798 photogallery, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Daily 10 am – 6 pm until July 31

Admission: Free

Tel: 6438 1784, 6437 5284

### Wang Ke – You Must Listen to Me

Where: Chinese Contemporary Gallery, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Daily 11 am – 7 pm, until

July 30

Admission: Free

Tel: 8456 2421

### Foundations – Wen Fang Solo Exhibition



Foundations is an expansion on the artist's series "The New Golden Brick," which was unveiled at Paris-Beijing Photo Gallery a year ago.

Where: Paris-Beijing Photo Gallery, 4 Jiuxianqiao, Chaoyang

When: Daily 10 am – 6 pm, until August 13

Admission: Free

Tel: 84599263

### Movie

#### Gabrielle

Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 3 pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

# 6 Saturday, June 28



# Herb extracts plants can protect your skin

By Li Jing

Many factors in your lifestyle and environment affect your skin. Air conditioning, pollution and sleep loss can all contribute to skin problems. *Beijing Today* suggests herb extracts, organic weapons to battle skin problems.

## Skin problem 1: Long-term use of air conditioning

Air conditioning may be a technological marvel, but it is a dermatological disaster. AC draws moisture out of the air and out of your skin. You will find your skin becoming uncomfortable and unsightly, as plump cells dry up and shrivel to create lines and wrinkles.

You can do a lot to improve this condition, including drinking more water, turning off the air conditioner and above all, moisturizing, moisturizing, moisturizing.

### Cucumber extract – essence recommended to moisturize

Cucumber is an excellent cosmetic. Rub it on the skin to keep it soft and moist. It is cooling, healing and soothing to irritated skin, whether caused by dry air or the effects of a rash.

Its extract is more beneficial in preventing irritation, moisturizing, softening and soothing skin, than cucumber slices as it can be better absorbed.

## Skin problem 2: Urban environment

Air pollution is the main culprit of bad skin in cities because vitamin E, an important component of healthy skin, is depleted from the uppermost skin in polluted urban areas. A thin layer on the surface of the skin is affected and generates skin problems like blackheads, pimples or visible pores in the T-zone.

Effective treatment is frequent cleaning and washing of the skin with warm soap and water.

### Nettle Extract – a good cleaner

The nettle is a perennial plant that grows in temperate and tropical wasteland areas around the world. It has been naturalized in Brazil and other parts of South America. It grows 2 to 4 meters high and pro-

duces pointed leaves and white to yellowish flowers. The plant has a nasty reputation for giving a savage sting if touched.

Nettle extract, rich in minerals and anti-inflammatory elements, is effective as a natural astringent and pore purifier. It can reduce the swelling of hemorrhoids as it shrinks and tightens the top layers of skin and mucous membranes, thereby reducing secretions, relieving irritation and improving tissue firmness.

### Precautions

Nettles can lower blood pressure and heart rate. Chronic use should be avoided due to its diuretic effects. Do not use nettle extract if pregnant, breast-feeding or diabetic.

## Where to buy

### Spa by MTM

Herb extracts offered here are prescribed according to the diagnosis of each customer's physical and mental needs. Extracts can be added to massage treatments or sold at retail outlets.

Where: 2/F, Grand Millennium Beijing, 7 Dongsanhuan Zhong Lu, Chaoyang  
Tel: 8587 6888

## Skin problem 3: loss of sleep

Metropolitans working under pressure may face more than common sleeping loss. Studies show poor sleep quality causes skin problems, like dark circles around eyes and dull skin. Lightening your skin may help you look more energetic during work hours, even though you have not slept well for a long time.

### Bearberry extract – recommended for lightening

Bearberry is a low growing evergreen, commonly found in dry, low-nutrient soils such as sand, clay and shallow soil. It has a stem that is covered in a thick bark and fine silky hairs. On the stem are many oval-shaped, leathery leaves. The flowers have five petals and

are pale pink or white with the petals curled around the narrow center. They bloom anywhere between March and June. Bearberry gets its name because bears like to feast on them.

The extract comes from the leaves of the bearberry, which is a natural, stable, highly-effective plant-based skin lightener that helps retard excessive melanin production without irritation. For a short period of time bearberry may achieve an enhanced whitening effect.

### Precautions

When taken in excessive amounts, bearberry may irritate and cause inflammation of the lining of the bladder and urinary tract.

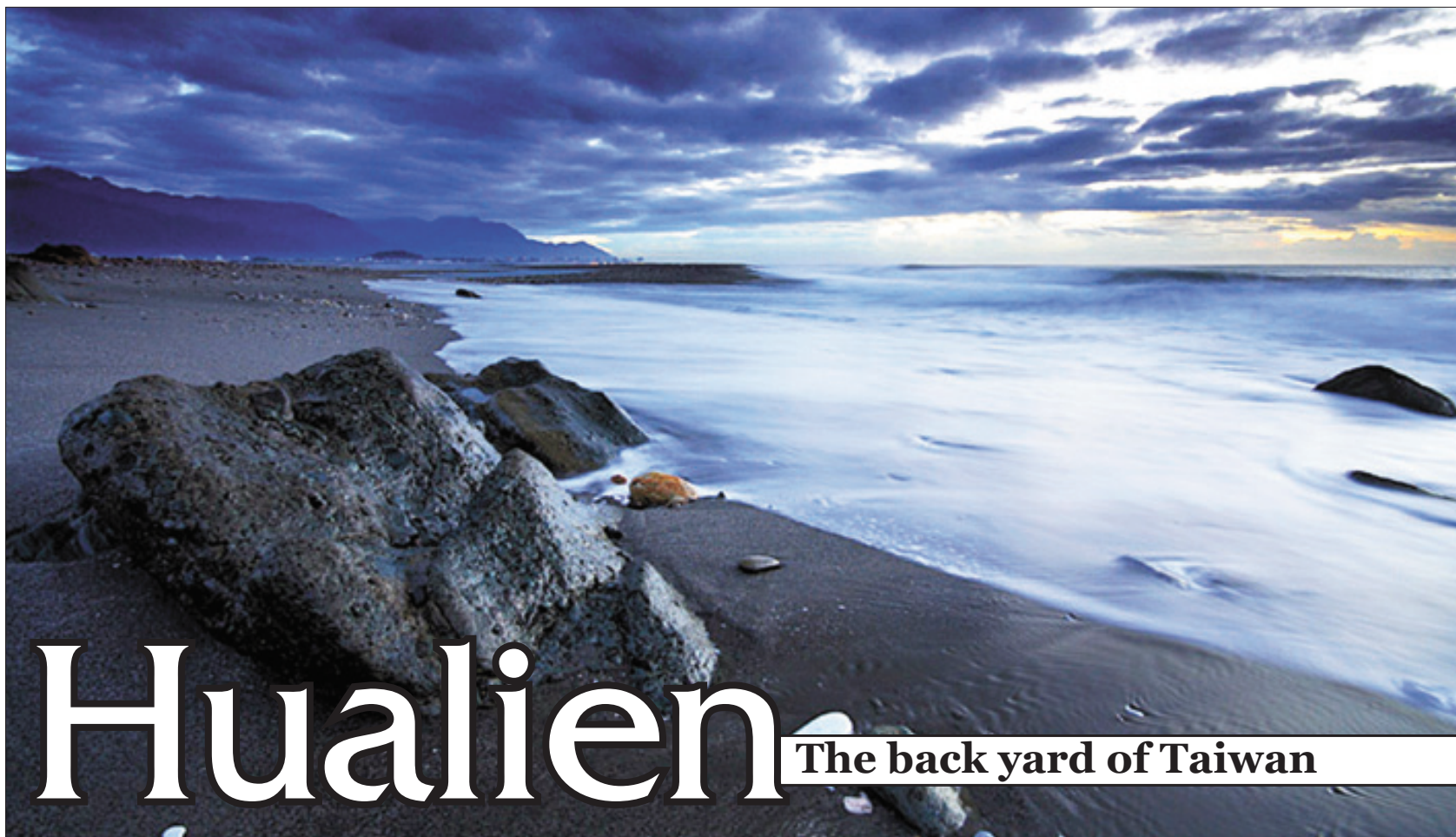
## How to use herb extracts

Essences derived from herbs contain vitamins, minerals and trace elements. This makes them excellent additions when customizing most types of cosmetic preparations, like moisturizers, masks, lotions and so forth.

Essences can also be used in massage. Suitable essences maximize the effect.

As the skin is as unique as you are, the amount and frequency of herbal extract use is different from person to person. A custom-blended skincare is recommended.





# Hualien

## The back yard of Taiwan

Hualien coastline

Photos by flickr.com

In less than a week, citizens in the Chinese mainland will be able to realize their dream of traveling to Taiwan.

With a delightful climate and fertile land, Taiwan has been praised for its rich food, fish, fruits, oolong tea, forests and flowers.

Hualien County is known to be the most beautiful place with rich tourism resources. The county is surrounded by the Pacific Ocean in the east and Central Mountains in the west. It is only 27 to 43 kilometers wide from east to west, but 142 kilometers from south to north, which makes Hualien the second longest county in Taiwan, next to Taidong. Since tourism resources developed late in Hualien, many scenic spots retain their original appearance.

Another characteristic of Hualien is that there are nine different minorities, like Atayal, Amis. The number of Amis people in Hualien is the biggest. In July and August, their memorial ceremonies attract many tourists.

## Baibaoxi (Baibao Brook) Go against the river

Baibaoxi is in Shoufeng Village, in the gorge of Nanmuguan Mountain with three waterfalls. The water vapor produced by the waterfall and the brook makes the gorge mysterious. The brook water flows out from the gorge and forms several clear ponds.

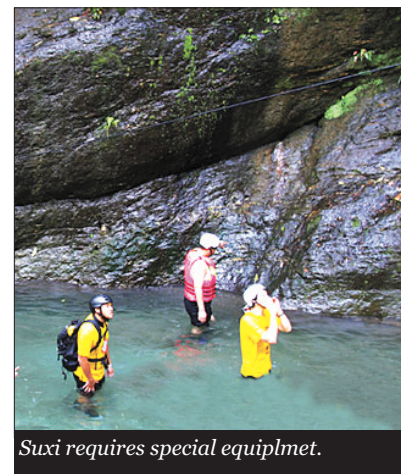
Baibaoxi is the important water origin in Shoufeng. Broad-leaved forests are on both sides of the brook. Roads have brought more and more people now to Baibaoxi for travel and fishing.

*Suxi*, or hiking against the brook, is a popular sports activity in Baibaoxi. *Suxi* originated from a mountain-climbing method in the Alps. Then, it became an independent outdoor sports activ-

ity and entered China in the late 1970s. *Suxi* requires people to hike from the lower reaches of a river to the upper reaches and conquer geographic obstacles on the way.

The first step for *Suxi* at Baibaoxi is to put on warm coats, special shoes, life jackets and crash helmets. Coaches will tell people how to protect themselves. Getting used to the water temperature is an important first step.

During the journey, you can take in the beauty of nature. Be careful of the stones in the brook – many are slippery and it is easy for trekkers to injure themselves. The current is also very strong, and can push over lighter people.



*Suxi requires special equipment.*



*Dolphins and whales are seen frequently in summer.*

## Whale watching

The Hualien fishing and leisure wharf is at the north end of the county. It was the first special wharf for entertainment in Taiwan. Hualien is the first city on the island to develop a whale watching program.

Whale watching is a hot activity in eastern Taiwan in summer time. Many people think there are more whales in summer and it is a good time for the activity. But the real reason is that there is no northeast monsoon wind, and waves come at a light chop to minimize sea sickness.

Sometimes, dolphins jump out of the sea or chase the ships in the water. If you are lucky, you can see killer whales, sperm whales and humpback whales. Even if you don't see any dolphins or whales, you can get a free ship ticket, which enables you to come back and have

another whale-watching tour within one year.

Whale-watching ships often set out in the morning and afternoon in June. In July and August, the peak seasons for whale-watching, ships set out four times a day.

### Tips

*Take your identity card in case there are inspections.*

*Wear long-sleeve clothes, sun glasses and take sun block.*

*If you have a history of motion sickness, take medicine 30 minutes before departure.*

*There are only three ships authorized by the Council of Agriculture, Taiwan: No 1 Duoluoman, Haijinghao and Daotashihao.*

## Mukumugi Heaven of peace and happiness

Mukumugi comes from the language of Truku, a local minority in Hualien. When the first Trukus came to the place, they described it as Mukumugi: a heaven of peace and happiness. Mukumugi is at Tongmen Village, 20 minutes journey from Hualien City. It is rich in natural resources and scenery.

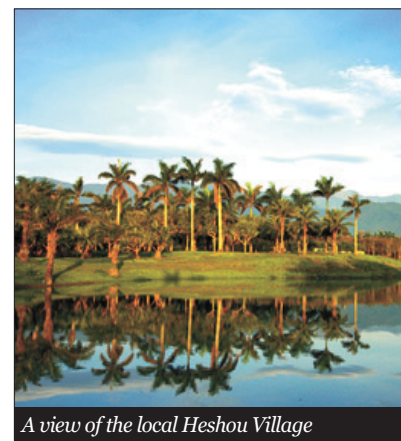
Mugua Brook is a main branch of Qingshui Brook and originates from a 3,349-meter mountain.

A lot of water flows through the brook and can carry stones and sand. Several dams and power houses are built along its banks.

The No 1 Qingshui Water Power is on the side of Qingshui Brook, a branch of Mugua Brook. The factory was constructed in 1939. Since fewer people come here, the scenery is well preserved. You need to have a certificate for entering the mountain area for viewing the scenes. Remember to take your identification card to obtain a certificate at a local police station.

The brook is a nice place to fish, barbecue and play water sports. The cool water is good to release summer heat.

(By Jackie Zhang)



*A view of the local Heshou Village*



# Seaside Tahitian romance



All local costumes are hand made from plants.

## July festivities

Heiva is French Polynesia's most important festival which takes place every July. For visitors, there is no better place to be during the month than surrounded by this pure display of Polynesian festivity.

It is a colorful display of traditional costumes, skills and music of pounding drums, a hypnotic groove in a celebration of life and traditional preparation for war. Heiva or the Tahiti Fete is celebrated all over the world, especially in Hawaii and California but peaks in Tahiti.

Costumes are integral to the Heiva experience, taking their lead from traditional tribal garments. Natural roots, seeds and nuts and feathers are used as decorations, as well as head dresses and a "toto" staff. Women's costumes use bird feathers, bouquets and flowers. Costumes are also symbolic, like the "varua ino," an evil spirit character with ghostly long face and fingernails, or "Tutea Tuturu," who represents the light of humanity in a blaze of sunburnt feathers and pearls and yellow and black make up.

The highlight of the Heiva is the "Mr and Miss Tahiti competition." Unlike other beauty contests, it's not just about brawn and good looks but also skill and intelligence. Part of the contest involves cracking open 10 coconuts in record time. The Mr. Tahiti competition emphasizes knowledge of ancient Polynesian skills like Palm tree climbing. The toughest round is lifting stones, and contestants have been known to lift weights up to 300 pounds.

The French have suppressed the Polynesian way of life for over a century. Heiva helps keep Polynesian traditions alive and gives people a sense of culture.

## Honeymoon special

Tahiti is the center of the universe for romance. Of its 118 islands and atolls, each is a tiny paradise. There is no better place to celebrate your new life together or to celebrate a milestone of your relationship.

Elaborate as a royal event, or as simple as an "I do," a Tahitian wedding ceremony is for many a dream come true. There's no more enchanting way to exchange vows, celebrate an anniversary or promise yourself to your loved one.

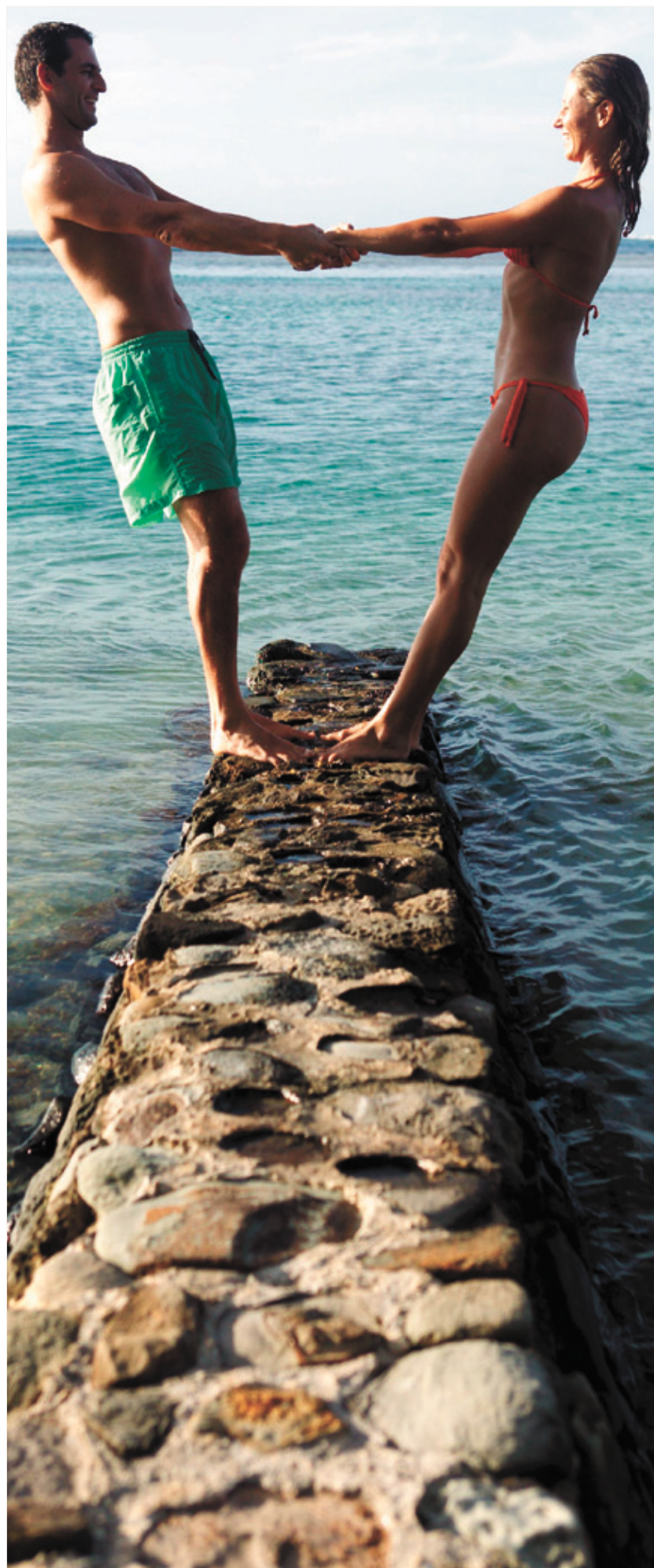
Some isles are crowned with jagged peaks soaring magically out of the ocean in an explosion of green velvet while others appear as if gracefully tossed upon the ocean "C barely floating above the breaking waves.

It also has the world's most perfect hotel room. Sleep above the turquoise lagoon waters in your thatched-roof hideaway with all the amenities and services of a first class hotel room. Intimate resorts, small peaceful villages, and miles of quiet, pristine beaches explain why Tahiti is ranked first in the world for "private time."

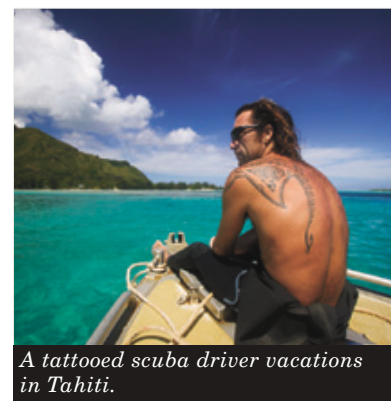
"I looked up and saw the outline of the island. And I knew right away that there was the place I'd been looking for all my life."

William Maugham, a British novelist, became a famous painter after he drifted to Tahiti to find inspiration for his paintings. It was also the source of inspiration for French painter Paul Gauguin, who lived in Tahiti in the 1890s and painted many Tahitian subjects.

Tahiti, the main island in a chain of archipelagos with 118 islands in total, continues to attract travelers with its sugar-white sandy beaches, vibrant marine life, rugged mountains and colorful history.



Tahiti provides special packages for honeymooners.



A tattooed scuba driver vacations in Tahiti.

## Breathtaking cruises

Cruising is redefined in Tahitian waters where you embark on a voyage to explore these romantic and unspoiled isles of the South Pacific.

Here, the ports-of-call are uncrowded and charming, the ships are smaller and luxurious, the neon-blue waters within the lagoons are calm and the ocean journey between the bright-green islands is short.

Floating atop the water playground of the lagoons, each ship offers unending activities for couples and families. A sampling of daily activities includes jetskiing, windsurfing, waterskiing, parasailing, canoeing, diving, shark feeding and snorkeling. Hop onto a glass-bottom boat, explore a lagoon or charter your own catamaran or powerboat for the day.

Surrounded by lush-green peaks, each island welcomes exploration by 4x4 safari to dramatic overlooks, circle-island trips stopping off at fruit-tasting shops and historic sites, independent trips for shopping or walking through the villages, or guided hiking trips into the mountains for an overview of the land and ocean.

The Polynesian world abounds in sights, sounds and experiences found nowhere else on earth. By day, live out your South Pacific fantasy when you anchor at a tiny *motu* for an afternoon of relaxation and fun. Or enjoy personalized tours of the historical and cultural sites hidden on each island. By night, enjoy the best Tahitian performers for elaborate and romantic displays of music and dance.



The Association of Surfing Professional (ASP) meets often in Tahiti.

## Tips

1. Tahiti's currency, the French Pacific Franc (CFP, also known as XPF), is pegged to the Euro at 1 CFP to .00838 Euro. The current rate is about 77 CFP to US \$1. Hotels and financial institutions offer exchange services.

2. Tahiti is famous for black pearls. Its local markets have a fine selection of local and international art, Tahitian pearls, perfumes and oils and precious wood crafts.

3. The best surf sites are in Teahuboo and Taina. Check the local newspaper, ask the desk clerk or call a surf shop to learn competition times.

(By Zhang Dongya)

CFP Photos



# Modes of Motivation

By Eugene Rosenberg

Under the old agricultural model, hunger drove human motivation. Farmers needed little motivation to rise each morning and work the earth from dawn to dusk in order to secure food for their families. As society progressed and resources were organized more effectively by the industrial model, motivation did not evolve in a corresponding fashion. While the responsibilities of workers became more complex and varied, their motivation stayed fixed in their bellies. A miner's or mechanic's motivation to work remained unchanged from that of their agricultural predecessors. It would take the revolution of the information age to catalyze the study and science of motivation as a product of more than just needing to be certain of the next meal.

Today, physical resources are so well organized that few want for things as basic as food, warmth and shelter. In addition to this, workers no longer expect to remain in the same position for their entire careers, making loyalty to a firm a personal choice rather than a directive based on the threat of poverty. No longer tied to a farm or a factory and no longer anxious about the necessities of life, employees now require meaningful motivation to invest themselves in all aspects of corporate operation.

## Intrinsic Motivation

When proposing an idea or strategy without obvious external incentives, Intrinsic Motivation can be applied to inspire or instruct. Surprisingly, the inclusion of intrinsic value may provide more inspiration than that of material reward. Appealing to a sense of self-improvement and personal virtuosity can serve as an excellent means of motivating action.

Most professionals in the modern work-

force take considerable pride in their job and skills – after all, they were attracted to their positions by choice, not necessity as in earlier economic periods. By couching action plans in a way that appeals to their vanity and offers them an opportunity to showcase and improve their abilities, employees will be eager to take up arms and apply themselves with no need for tangible remuneration. Making plain the necessity and rarity of an employee's skill set will often reap even greater contributions from them than originality requested, out of their sheer desire to show off their acuity.

Another method to employ intrinsic motivation is to appeal to the altruism of the individual. Most people like to think of themselves as generous and giving, and believe their contributions to their organization to be significant and substantial. Drawing this into sharp relief in our communication will inspire greater investment from our audience. Through the inclusion of higher ideals and describing the value of direct contribution toward them, synergizes both self-esteem and motivation committed to furthering the mission and values of an organization.

## Extrinsic Motivation

Conversely, Extrinsic Motivation employs external and often tangible incentives to motivate action, acceptance and understanding. Given the limited amount of bonuses, promotion, and perks we can realistically deliver, creating Extrinsic Motivation requires exercising insight into the needs and desires of employees to discern and deliver exciting, meaningful rewards for compliance and initiative.

Typically, professional corporate activity at all levels grounds itself in routine. In many ways such structured operations should be



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viewed as a blessing, as it creates an environment to sharpen skills and develop relationships. Yet it also serves as disincentive, as activity mires itself in attrition and tedium. When proposing a change or action that will require the exploration and reassignment of staff and resources, bringing to light the novelty of the situation may put fears of change to rest. Similarly, the opportunity to develop new skills and relationships should outweigh any resistance to change that may linger in entrenched employees.

Perhaps improving efficiency stands as the strongest Extrinsic Motivation we can realistically offer in communication. While employees' comfort with existing structures may be copasetic enough to make them suspicious of change, the promise of streamlined operations or less time mired in administrative detail ought to trump any stubbornness or loyalty to convention. Ultimately, the ability to illustrate the benefits in terms of less time wasted in tedious paperwork or exhausting repetitive labor should prove the most inspiring of all forms of Extrinsic Motivation.

Although the science and study of motivation remains a relatively new discipline, numerous academics and business professionals have invested their careers in its theory and practical application. By infusing their research into our daily communication, we can achieve faster and more dedicated responses to our calls for action and change regardless of our title or position in the corporate structure.



Eugene Rosenberg is a seminar trainer and copy editor for ClarkMorgan

## Hotel

### Jianguo Garden Hotel upgraded to five-star

Jianguo Garden Hotel has been elevated to a five-star operation in advance of the Beijing Olympic Games. As the official reception hotel for the Games, Jianguo Garden Hotel is ideally located on Chang'an Jie, near the ministries of commerce and transport of the People's Republic of China.

**Where:** Jianguo Garden Hotel, 17 Jianguomen Nei Dajie, Dongcheng  
**Tel:** 6528 6666



### Hilton's newest hotel opens in Wangfujing

Hilton Beijing Wangfujing, housed in the Macau Center Complex and designed as a chic, intimate lifestyle hotel, is scheduled to open on July 28. It features 255 guestrooms, including 58 suites, which will be among some of the largest in the city starting at 50 square meters.

Gourmet palates will delight to the hotel's fine range of restaurants and lounges offering an eclectic choice of contemporary cuisine in high-class surroundings.

For more information, please visit [hiltonworldwide.com](http://hiltonworldwide.com).

## Nightlife

### For the brothers and sisters in Sichuan earthquake

Funds raised will be totally donated to support victims of the affected areas.

**Where:** New Get Luck Bar (Haoyun), A1 Xingba Lu, Nuren Jie, Chaoyang  
**When:** 9 pm, June 20  
**Admission:** 20 yuan, military personnel (free)  
**Tel:** 8448 3335

## Aviation



### Air New Zealand extends direct service between Beijing and Auckland

Air New Zealand will extend its direct service between Beijing and Auckland from July 19. The Beijing-Auckland direct service will operate twice a week using Air New Zealand's new Boeing 777-200ER aircraft and will increase to three services per week later in December.

In addition, Air New Zealand operates three direct flights between Shanghai and Auckland, nine to Auckland and seven to London weekly.

If you have any info for this page, please send it to [lixiaojing@ynet.com](mailto:lixiaojing@ynet.com)

## Outdoors

### The two valley walk

The hike is through a lush valley north of the Ming tombs. The trek follows one valley to a fork, and comes back out down another valley, the trail crosses the Great Wall twice. The valleys are quite deep. It is a peaceful trail to walk, especially when the streams are running.

**Where:** Meet on the ground floor of Starbucks (Jiangtai Lu, Lido Holiday Inn)

**When:** 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, June 28

**Cost:** 250 yuan

**Tel:** 13910025516

(reservations are essential)

### Hulun Buir Grasslands

Hulun Buir Grasslands, located outside the remote border to the north of Manzhouli, are known locally as the "most unsullied prairie," because of the lack of pollution and the uninterrupted green that, in summer, stretches in all directions. Hulunbuir is fed by hundreds of rivers, large and small, that have made this area highly popular with the Mongolian nomads and herders. The tour will also touch Hulun Lake and Manzhouli.

**When:** Fly to Manzhouli on June 27 morning and fly back on June 29

**Cost:** 5,800 yuan

**Tel:** 6432 9341, 6432 1041

(reservations are essential)

(By Li Jing)



**Chinglish story**

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Gan Tian at [gantian@ynet.com](mailto:gantian@ynet.com).

# Pay through the nose

By Charles Zhu

David and Sam were accompanying me on a New York stroll. Sam was a historian of the city and knew almost everything of its architecture and cultural history. He guided me to where David Rockefeller had lived and the office building where his famous descendents worked. He told us how high society in New York drove horse-drawn carriages in the late 19th century and Ford automobiles in the early 20th century on these streets and it was regarded as the fashion of the day. These were scenes I read in Edith Wharton's novel *Age of Innocence*. David was notorious for his knowledge and taste in wines. He had written quite a few books on cuisine and wines.

We were walking in Greenwich Village. Sam spoke quite eloquently about the places where Eugene O'Neil, Dos Passos and Ginsberg lived when they came to the village. I was fascinated by the factory-turned buildings where works by modern and contemporary artists, many of whom were Chinese immigrants, were for sale. I was particularly attracted by an oil painting of a Chinese buffalo by a Chinese artist. After having a look at the price tag, Sam said, "You'll have to pay through the nose for that one."

From Greenwich Village, we came to Little Italy and we all felt tired and wished to find a place to rest. We entered a bar bedecked with a totally-paneled discolored wooden facade in an obvious Italian flavor.

We found a corner table where you could see the New Yorkers walking at an incessant frenzied pace. The style was fairly different from the pedestrians you see in Beijing, where people walk at a leisurely pace.

Sam ordered Soaves, an Italian white, for all of us. I thought it was a rather ordinary bland mass-produced white from Italy. However, after I tasted it, I changed my thinking. It was really good with a pronounced minerality.

At the end, the waiter charged Sam 18 dollars for a glass. It was far more than Sam had expected. He gave the money and said under his breath, "Damn it, I paid through the nose!"

David told him that it was Soave Classico from Monte Tondo, different from all traditional inexpensive Soave wines, with the grapes all picked by hand instead of machine. The farmers there had drastically changed their farming method and paid more attention to quality than to quantity. So, the Soaves were on the upswing in recent years.

David said, "That's the price but it's worth it."

On the way back to New Brunswick, New Jersey, I was consumed with curiosity over Sam using the expression, "paying through the nose." How could a person pay through the nose?

I put this question frankly to Sam and he burst into laughter. "My dear man, when I say 'I paid through the nose,' it means that I feel that I have paid a great amount, probably more than it's worth."

"That's why I just now tried to convince him that he paid what it was worth. It is a wine with a fleshy texture, aged in oak barrels. The effects of the air that penetrate into the wood add richness and intensity to the texture of the wine. It is delicious," David said.

"So, Sam definitely had not paid through the nose," I concluded with an understanding smile.



CFP Photo

This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please take a picture and send it to [gantian@ynet.com](mailto:gantian@ynet.com) together with your name and address.



Photo by Pan Hong

## Mystery cardsa

By Derrick Sobodash

Cards are lots of fun. With the rise of credit cards -- and with them debt -- in China, people are toting more plastic in their purses than ever before. Why not grab another card? Who cares what it does, it's more plastic. If you can't find a use for it, it can almost certainly find application as a Hollywood lock pick.

This sign is intended to notify card purchasers about terms of service for cards. The text reads, "This 10 of card cash deposit as collateral. The long rangs is effective not reporting the loss carrying no name loses not to repair. Invite the appropriate storage damaga not returning cash deposit as collateral."

Once again, a fantastic attempt. However, it makes no sense. At all.

The first line on the sign intends to explain that the card requires an initial

deposit of 10 yuan. This could be written as, "Card requires an initial deposit of 10 yuan."

In the second line, "long range" is clearly a mistake. Range refers to the distance from an object. Quantum physics aside, most people would not consider two points in time as locations. The sign means that the card can be used for a long time, theoretically forever, though it is not bound to any name and if you lose it, the company will not replace it. A simple way to write this would be, "While card does not expire, the distributor will not replace lost cards."

The third and final line just says that the company will not return the money that remains on a damaged card: if you break it, you are out of luck. This can simply be written as, "Distributor cannot recover money from a damaged card."

**Blacklist**

Beijing Today has come up with Blacklist, a new column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you're planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then this page is your new best friend. Watch it for each week.

## Local professor: Zhu Shida

### 1. Some alone time

Alone is an adverb. It means single, solitary, separate from others. For instance, he toils alone. In this collocation, the adjective "lonely" should be used: "Some lonely time." Even though it does not convey the exact sentiment here, it is grammatically correct. It would be better to say, "Some time alone."

### 2. On the courtesy of tourist agencies

You should never use this phrase in this way. When you wish to say something is a favor or complimentary rather than something rightfully owing, the idiomatic expression is, "by (or of) courtesy." So, the correct way to say this is: "By courtesy of the tourist agencies." For an example, "The furniture for the play was supplied by courtesy of the Beijing Museum."

### 3. Strategic and directing topics

I wondered for a long time when I first saw this phrase what it meant. Strategic topic is OK but what does "directing topic" mean? The writer is thinking in a Chinese way which is "fang xiang xing de." To express this Chinese idea, we probably have to add a little more: a topic that concerns what direction we are to take. For better English, I think we should say, "Topics that have strategic importance and describe what direction we are to take in this field."

## Native Speaker: Joe Edwards

### 1. Some alone time

This expression is very popular in North American speech and is accepted on the whole even though, grammatically, it is not correct since "alone" is an adverb and should not be used as an adjective as the writer has done in this example. But, then again, many English expressions today are accepted in incorrect grammatical form that, years ago, would have been frowned upon. Some language experts claim that the spelling that is now used in text messaging may become part of the English language down the road. Oh, the horror! Soon we'll be quacking like ducks at each other and it will be accepted. But, I digress. To say, "I want some alone time" is permissible. Just as we say, "I want some down time." To make the expression correct grammatically, you could rewrite it to say, "I want some time alone," or "I want some time to myself," or simply, "I want to be alone."

### 2. On the courtesy of tourist agencies

We know what idea is trying to be conveyed here but the incorrect phraseology has been used. When a company or person does someone a favor, we say the act is carried out "through the courtesy of" or "courtesy of." For example, "The guitars for the band were supplied 'courtesy of' Bud's Guitar Emporium," or, "supplied 'through the courtesy of' Bud's Guitar Emporium."

### 3. Strategic and directing topics

You got me. I have no idea what the above phrase means but, again, as John Lennon once sang, "there are no problems, only solutions." A "strategic topic" makes sense but I am baffled as to the meaning of "directing topic." After several whiskeys, I concluded that the writer was talking about a specific strategy and what direction should be taken to carry out that strategy. I would rewrite this idea thusly, "Topics concerning strategy and direction." Sounds good to me. Pour me another drink.





# Into the Wild

## Movie of the week

Walking into the wild is a dream for every living creature in the urban jungle, mostly those who yearn for long-distance travel. Quite the opposite, the movie's hero Chris wants to feel real nature without experiencing hypocrisy. It seems he is running away from something on a quest for real truth. Experiencing adventures of discovery alone is something money cannot buy. At the end of his story, his death is very sad but the unique footprints he leaves behind make many admire his life.

## Synopsis

Into the Wild is based on a true story and the bestselling book by Jon Krakauer. After graduating from Emory University in 1992, top student and athlete Christopher McCandless (Emile Hirsch) abandons his possessions, gives his entire \$24,000 savings account to charity and hitchhikes to Alaska to live in the wilderness. Along the way, Christopher encounters a series of characters that shape his life.



(2007)

*Japanese attire.)*

**Ron:** Did you find everything you need?

**Chris:** (breaking his gaze from the photographs). Yeah. I hope I don't wreck<sup>(6)</sup> your machine. There's a lot of grime<sup>(7)</sup> in that stuff.

**Ron:** Well, that's what it's for. How do these steaks look?

*(Ron places the steaks on to the kitchen table.)*

**Chris:** Great.

**Ron:** Well, sit down.

*(Ron grabs some silverware from a drawer, plops it down on the kitchen table with some paper napkins.)*

**Ron:** What do you drink?

**Chris:** You got a White Russian?

**Ron:** Nope.

**Chris:** Beer?

**Ron:** Nope. Don't have any alcohol.

I had to quit all that. How about a guava juice<sup>(8)</sup>?

**Chris:** I'll take a guava juice. That sounds good.

*(As Ron gets the drinks)*

**Ron:** Yeah, I had a little spell with the bottle, you could say.

*(Ron sets the drinks down on the table then sits with Chris. They lift their glasses toward one another, then ...)*

**Ron/Chris:** Cheers.

**Ron:** I spent most of my life in the army. On New Year's Eve 1957, I was stationed over<sup>(9)</sup> in Okinawa. My wife and son were here in the States, just driving down the road when a fellow who'd had too much to drink plowed right into them. Killed them both. Anyway, you might think that the last thing in the world I'd do is go to the whiskey, but at the time, it felt like the only thing I could do. And I did it hard. But pretty soon, I figured I wasn't doing my wife and son any good, mourning them with a bottle. So, I pulled myself together<sup>(10)</sup> and quit drinking, cold turkey. And then ...

## Scene 1:

### Chris's autobiography

**Chris(VO):** I see them standing at the formal gates of their colleges, I see my father strolling out<sup>(1)</sup> under the ochre sandstone arch, the red tiles glinting like bent plates of blood behind his head, I see my mother with a few light books at her hip standing at the pillar made of tiny bricks with the wrought-iron gate still open behind her, its sword-tips black in the May air, they are about to graduate, they are about to get married, they are kids, they are dumb, all they know is they are innocent, they would never hurt anybody. I want to go up to them and say, Stop, don't do it – she's the wrong woman, he's the wrong man, you are going to do things you cannot imagine you would ever do, you are going to do bad things to children, you are going to suffer in ways you never heard of, you are going to want to die.

them that we had been forced to witness since we were very young. It seemed like they never fought without us. I remember the first family meeting to let Chris and me in on their plans for getting a divorce. They wanted us to choose which of them we'd live with. I cried my eyes out<sup>(4)</sup>. But the divorce never happened, though the threats and meetings never stopped. It wasn't long before Chris and I shut off – we would tell Mom and Dad to go ahead and get the divorce. Chris and I just wanted to get away from their fights, and Mom kept promising to get out and take us with her as soon as their company made enough money. Dad had been the young genius (*that*) NASA enlisted to do (*crucial*) designs for the American satellite radar systems that would be our answer to the Russian Sputnik<sup>(5)</sup>. And Mom and he later started up a consulting firm combining her get-up-and-go resourcefulness with his wealth of knowledge. By the time the company actually made its first million, the careers and money seemed to erase her memory of the promise she'd made us.

## Scene 2:

### Carine's autobiography

**Carine(VO):** When we were little, Chris was very to himself. He wasn't anti-social, he always had friends, and everybody liked him – but he could go off<sup>(2)</sup> and entertain himself for hours, he didn't seem to need toys or friends. He could be alone without being lonely. The secrets our parents kept, though unknown to Chris and me, led to bouts of rage<sup>(3)</sup> and even violence between

## Scene 3:

### In the kitchen, Ron's house – night

*(As Chris enters, Ron is pulling the steaks from the broiler. Above the kitchen sink, Chris sees a row of approximately 10 photographs, each in vertical four by six frames, some black and white, some color, all of Japanese boys and girls in formal American and*

## Vocabulary:

- Stroll out:** to walk in a slow relaxed fashion.
- Go off:** to leave a place, especially in order to do something.
- Bouts of:** several short periods during which there is a lot of a particular thing, usually something unpleasant.
- Cry one's eye out:** cry a great deal.
- Sputnik:** a manmade Russian satellite.
- Wreck:** damage or destroy.
- Grime:** dirt that forms a layer on the surface of something.
- Guava:** the fruit of a tropical American tree, with yellow skin and pink flesh.
- Stationed:** to be sent to a particular area, especially from one of the armed forces.
- Pull myself together:** to take control of one's feelings and behave in a calm, rational way

(By Sun Jina)

